

July 12, 2011

County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration 500 West Temple Street, Room 713, Los Angeles, California 90012 (213) 974-1101 http://ceo.lacounty.gov

ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

20

July 12, 2011

Sachi A. Hamae SACHI A. HAMAI EXECUTIVE OFFICER Board of Supervisors GLORIA MOLINA First District

MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS Second District

ZEV YAROSLAVSKY Third District

DON KNABE Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH Fifth District

383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration 500 West Temple Street Los Angeles, CA 90012

The Honorable Board of Supervisors

Dear Supervisors:

County of Los Angeles

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS:
COPPER HILL PARK IMPROVEMENT PROJECT
ADOPT MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION AND
MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM;
APPROVE REVISED PROJECT BUDGET; AND
ADOPT, ADVERTISE, AND AWARD
SPECS. 6816; CAPITAL PROJECT NO. 69537
(FIFTH DISTRICT) (3 VOTES)

SUBJECT

Approval of the recommended actions will adopt the Mitigated Negative Declaration, approve the revised project budget, adopt plans and specifications, allow advertising for construction bids, and delegate authority to the Director of Public Works to award and execute a construction contract for the Copper Hill Park Improvement Project.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

1. Consider the Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Copper Hill Park Improvement Project together with any comments received during the public review period, find that the Mitigated Negative Declaration reflects the independent judgment and analysis of the Board, adopt the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting program, finding that the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program is adequately designed to ensure compliance with the mitigation measures during project implementation, find on the basis of the whole record before the Board that there is no substantial evidence the

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Project will have a significant effect on the environment, and adopt the Mitigated Negative Declaration.

- 2. Approve the revised total Project budget of \$1,858,000 for the Copper Hill Park Improvement Project.
- 3. Approve the Project and adopt plans and specifications that are on file with the Department of Public Works for construction of the Copper Hill Park Improvement Project at an estimated construction cost of \$916,000, and instruct the Executive Officer of the Board to advertise the Project for construction bids to be received and opened on August 9, 2011, in accordance with the Instruction Sheet for Publishing Legal Advertisements.
- 4. Authorize the Director of Public Works to execute a consultant services agreement with the apparent Lowest Responsive and Responsible Bidder to prepare a baseline construction schedule for a not-to-exceed fee of \$2,000, funded by the existing Project funds.
- 5. Authorize the Director of Public Works to determine, in accordance with the applicable contract and bid documents, whether the apparent Lowest Responsive and Responsible Bidder has timely prepared a satisfactory baseline construction schedule and satisfied all conditions for contract award, including the criteria adopted by your Board for contract award. Upon determination that all such conditions have been satisfied, authorize the Director of Public Works to award and execute the construction contract, in the form previously approved by County Counsel, to the apparent Lowest Responsive and Responsible Bidder, and to establish the effective date of the contract upon receipt by acceptable performance and payment bonds and evidence of required contractor insurance.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Approval of the recommended actions will adopt the Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND), approve the revised Project budget, adopt the plans and specifications, allow advertising for construction bids, and delegate authority to the Director of Public Works to award and execute a construction contract for the Copper Hill Park Improvement Project.

The proposed Project includes the initial development of a new 4-acre park that will provide passive recreational opportunities for residents in the unincorporated area of Santa Clarita. The park will be located at 21380 Copper Hill Drive, Santa Clarita, California 91350.

The initial development (Phase I) will include site grading, a new 16 space parking lot, low impact development drainage improvements, security lighting, walkways with a stairway, landscaping, and new roadway signage, striping, and a retaining wall along Copper Hill Drive. Plans and specifications for the Project have been completed, and the Department of Public Works (Public Works) is recommending that your Board adopt and advertise these documents for construction bids.

The recommended MND identified certain impacts caused by the Project's Phase I that can be mitigated to a level below significance (see Environmental Documentation). Future park improvements (Phase II) include an enlarged parking lot, a restroom, basketball court, play area, gazebo, and picnic area. Although Phase II improvements are unfunded at this time, the MND identifies impacts that would be caused by Phase II improvements, which can also be mitigated to a level below significance.

In order to expedite construction of the Project, it is recommended that your Board authorize the Director of Public Works to award and execute a construction contract to the Lowest Responsive and Responsible Bidder (as defined in the Facts and Provisions/Legal Requirements Section of this letter) if the low bid can be awarded within the total Project budget approved by your Board. If the low bid cannot be accommodated within the approved total Project budget, a contract will not be awarded, and Public Works will return to your Board with a revised Project scope and/or other funding recommendations.

The proposed consultant services agreement requires the apparent Lowest Responsive and Responsible Bidder to prepare a baseline construction schedule that conforms to the County's schedule specification, which is critical to successfully managing construction activities by both the contractor and the County. The bid specifications provide that if the apparent Lowest Responsive and Responsible Bidder fails to complete an acceptable schedule, the Director of Public Works may return to your Board to recommend that the bidder be determined nonresponsible and recommend awarding the construction contract to the next Lowest Responsive and Responsible Bidder, contingent on that bidder completing a baseline schedule that conforms to the County's specifications.

It is anticipated that construction will begin in October 2011 and be completed in May 2012.

Green Building/Sustainable Design Program

The Project will support your Board's Sustainable Design Program by incorporating low impact development features, such as permeable pavement in the parking lot to capture, filter, and percolate stormwater runoff on-site.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The Countywide Strategic Plan directs the provision of Operational Effectiveness (Goal 1); Children, Family, and Adult Well-Being (Goal 2); and Community and Municipal Services (Goal 3), by investing in public infrastructure that will enhance recreational opportunities for County residents.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The total Project cost, including programming, plans and specifications, plan check, construction, consultant services, miscellaneous expenditures, and County services, is currently estimated at \$1,858,000, which reflects an increase of \$500,000 from the previously approved Project budget of \$1,358,000 to fund current estimated construction costs based on the completed design and associated soft costs. The Project Schedule and Budget Summary are detailed in Attachment A.

Sufficient appropriation is available in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2011-12 Capital Project/Refurbishment Budget for the Copper Hill Park Improvements Project (Capital Project No. 69537) to fully fund the Project. The Project is funded by \$900,000 of Park-In-Lieu-Fees, \$500,000 of Utility User's Tax Funds, and \$458,000 of net County cost derived from Proposition 62.

Operating Budget Impact

Following completion of the Project, the Department of Parks and Recreation (Parks and Recreation) will maintain the park improvements. Parks and Recreation anticipates one-time operating costs of \$14,000 for maintenance equipment/supplies, and ongoing operating costs of \$62,000 annually for recreation and maintenance staff, custodial supplies, and utilities. Parks and Recreation will work with the Chief Executive Office to confirm the appropriate level of funding and request the one-time and ongoing funds in its FY 2011-12 Proposed New Facilities Budget request.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

Pursuant to your Board's Civic Art Policy adopted on December 7, 2004, as amended, the Project budget includes 1 percent of design and construction costs to be allocated to the Civic Art Fund.

Applicable law, including the State Public Contract Code, requires the County to award construction contracts to the Lowest Responsive and Responsible Bidder, which refers to the firm that: 1) submits the lowest bid price; 2) is deemed by the County to be "responsive" to specific criteria under the solicitation, including, but not limited to, licensure, bonding, and insurance requirements; and 3) is determined by the County to be a "responsible" bidder by exhibiting the quality, fitness, capacity, experience, and trustworthiness, to satisfactorily perform the work required under the bid solicitation. As specified in the bid documents, the lowest bid price shall be determined by adding the lump sum bid, the extended overhead daily rate multiplied by 60 calendar days, and the Local Small Business Enterprise preference (5 percent of the lowest bid price up to a maximum of \$50,000) if applicable.

A standard construction contract, in a form previously approved by County Counsel, will be used. The contract will contain terms and conditions supporting your Board's ordinances, policies, and programs, including, but not limited to, County's Greater Avenues for Independence and General Relief Opportunities for Work Programs (GAIN/GROW); Board Policy 5.050; Contract Language to Assist in Placement of Displaced County Workers; Board Policy 5.110; Reporting of Improper Solicitations; Board Policy 5.060; Notice to Contract Employees of Newborn Abandonment Law (Safely Surrendered Baby Law), Board Policy 5.135; Contractor Employee Jury Service Program, Los Angeles County Code, Chapter 2.203; Notice to Employees Regarding the Federal Earned Income Credit (Federal Income Tax Law, Internal Revenue Service Notice 1015); Contractor Responsibility and Debarment, Los Angeles County Code Chapter 2.202; and the Los Angeles County's Child Support Compliance Program, Los Angeles County Code, Chapter 2.200; and the standard Board-directed clauses that provide for contract termination or renegotiation.

To ensure that the contract is awarded to the Lowest Responsive and Responsible Bidder with a satisfactory history of performance, bidders are required to report violations of the False Claims Act, criminal convictions, civil litigation, defaulted contracts with the County, complaints filed with the contractor's State License Board, labor law/payroll violation, and debarment actions. As provided in Board Policy 5.140, the information reported by the contractor will be considered before making a recommendation to award.

The Project specifications contain provisions requiring the contractor to report solicitations of improper consideration of County employees and allowing the County to terminate the contract if it is found that the contractor offered or gave improper consideration to County employees.

The plans and specifications include the contractual provisions and material requirements necessary for this Project and are on file with the Architectural Engineering Division of Public Works.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

In compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), an Initial Study was prepared for the proposed Project, including the proposed initial development (Phase I) and future improvements (Phase II). The Initial Study identified potentially significant effects of the Project on biological resources, cultural resources, and geology. Prior to the release of the proposed MND and Initial Study for public review, revisions in the Project were made or agreed to which would avoid these effects or mitigate them to a point where clearly no significant effects would occur, as follows:

- Biological Resources: Provide a Native Plant Exclusion Zone to protect the existing Tucker Oak Grove from any disturbance during the construction of the proposed Project;
- Cultural Resources: Provide archaeological monitoring of all earth disturbances greater than two feet in depth; implement established protocols in the event of the inadvertent discovery of archaeological materials, paleontological resources, and/or human remains; and
- Geology and Soils: Design and construct the Project in accordance with the Project specific geotechnical report and applicable sections of the California Building Code; and implement Best Management Practices during construction for erosion and dust control.

The Initial Study and Project revisions showed that there is no substantial evidence, in light of the whole record before the County, that the Project as revised may have a significant effect on the environment. Based on the Initial Study and Project revisions, an MND was prepared for this Project. The proposed Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (Appendix C of Attachment B) was prepared to ensure compliance with the environmental mitigation measures included as part of the final MND (Attachment B) relative to these areas during Project implementation. There has been no substantial revision of the MND since public circulation that would result in a new

avoidable significant effect and previously proposed mitigation measures and Project revisions will ensure that all significant environmental effects are reduced to below the level of significance.

Public Notice was published in The Signal Newspaper on September 13 and 19, 2010, pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21092 and posted pursuant to Section 21092.3. During the 30-day comment period, which ended on October 12, 2010, five written responses were received from the following public agencies: County of Los Angeles' Sheriff Department, Sanitation Districts, Fire Department, Parks and Recreation, and the City of Santa Clarita. No comments were received from members of the public. All comments received, as well as responses to the comments, are contained in the final MND (Appendix D of Attachment B) and have been sent to the commenting public agencies pursuant to Section 21092.5 of the Public Resources Code.

The location of these documents and other materials constituting the record of the proceedings upon which your Board's decision is based in this matter are filed with the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, Project Management Division I, 900 South Fremont Avenue, 5th Floor, Alhambra, California 91803. The custodian of such documents and materials is David Palma of Public Works.

The Project is not exempt from payment of a fee to the California Department of Fish and Game pursuant to Section 711.4 of the Fish and Game Code to defray the costs of fish and wildlife protection and management incurred by the California Department of Fish and Game. Upon your Board's adoption of the MND, Public Works will file a Notice of Determination in accordance with Section 21152(a) of the California Public Resources Code and pay the required filing and processing fees with the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk of approximately \$2,119.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

Advertising for construction bids will be in accordance with the County's standard Instruction Sheet for Publishing Legal Advertisements (Attachment C).

As requested by your Board on February 3, 1998, this contract opportunity will be listed on the Doing Business with Us website.

Participation by Community Business Enterprises (CBE) in the Project is encouraged through Public Works' Capital Projects' CBE Outreach Program and by monitoring the good faith efforts of bidders to utilize CBE.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

Approval of the recommended actions will have no impact on current County services or projects.

CONCLUSION

Please return one adopted copy of this letter to the Chief Executive Office, Capital Projects Division; the Department of Parks and Recreation; and the Department of Public Works, Project Management Division I.

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM T. FUJIOKA Chief Executive Officer

WTF:RLR:DJT SB:VM:cvb

Attachments (3)

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
 County Counsel
 Arts Commission
 Parks and Recreation
 Public Works

U:\Board Letters-CEO 07-12-11 Copper Hill AAA BL

ATTACHMENT A

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS:
COPPER HILL PARK IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT
ADOPT MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION AND
MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM;
APPROVE REVISED PROJECT BUDGET; AND
ADOPT, ADVERTISE, AND AWARD
SPECS. 6816; CAPITAL PROJECT NO. 69537

I. PROJECT SCHEDULE

Project Activity	Scheduled Completion Date	Revised Completion Date
Establish Capital Project	06/16/09*	-
Construction Documents	08/06/09	03/31/11*
Jurisdictional Approvals	09/17/09	05/19/11*
Award Construction Contract	12/29/09	09/15/11
Construction Start	01/29/10	10/03/11
Substantial Completion	09/27/10	05/31/12
Final Acceptance	11/04/10	07/31/12

^{*} actual completion date.

	Board	Impact of	Revised Project
Project Activity	Approved Project Budget	This Action	Budget
Land Acquisition	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Construction	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	
Low Bid Construction Contract	\$ 695,000	\$ 221,000	\$ 916,000
Job Order Contract	ψ 093,000 	Ψ 22 1,000	Ψ 910,000
	69,500	\$ 22,100	04 600
Change Orders Departmental Crafts	09,500	\$ 22,100	91,600
Youth Employment	0	0	1
Construction Consultants	0	0	0
Misc. Expense: State Water Resources Board			
	1,235	l :	1,735
Telecomm Equip – Affixed to Building	0	0	0
Civic Arts	7,630	2,446	10,076
Other: Utility Connection Fees	<u>164,500</u>	(2,446)	<u>162,054</u>
Subtotal	\$ 937,865	\$ 243,600	\$1,181,465
Programming/Development	\$ 47,500	\$ 0	\$ 47,500
Plans and Specifications	\$ 90,000	\$ 60,000	\$ 150,000
Consultant Services			
Site Planning	\$ 0	0	\$ 0
Hazardous Materials	0	0	0
Geotech/Soils Report and Soils Testing	10,000	\$ 5,750	15,750
Material Testing	0	\$ 15,750	15,750
Cost Estimating	0	0	0
Topographic Surveys	0	0	0
Construction Management	0	0	0
Construction Administration	0	0	0
Environmental	55,615	8,500	64,115
Move Management	0	, o	0
Equipment Planning	. <u> </u>	l o	o l
Legal	0	Ō	Ô
Construction/Change Order	. <u> </u>	Ō	Ō
Subtotal	\$ 65,615	\$ 30,000	\$ 95,615
Miscellaneous Expenditures	\$ 2,250	\$ 3,000	\$ 5,250
Jurisdictional Review/Plan Check/Permit	\$ 3,500	\$ 25,669	\$ 29,169
County Services	,	,	,
Code Compliance & Quality Control (Inspection)	\$ 37,170	\$ 47,830	\$ 85,000
Design Review	0	. , ,	0
Design Services	0	0	o l
Contract Administration	22,845	\$ 13,402	36,247
Project Management	130,655	\$ 56,298	186,953
Project Management Support Services	0	0	0
ISD Job Order Contract Management	o l	Ŏ	Ö
DPW Job Order Contract Management	.0	Ŏ	ŏ
ISD ITS Communications	Ö	Ö	ő
Project Security	ő	Ö	ŏ
Project Technical Support	10,783	\$ 8,574	19,357
Office of Affirmative Action	3,750	\$ 3,000	6,750
County Counsel	0,700	Ψ 0,000	0,700
Other: Contract Recovery	<u>6,067</u>	8,62 <u>7</u>	14,69 <u>4</u>
Subtotal	\$ 211,270	\$ 137,731	\$ 349,001
TOTAL	\$1,358,000	\$ 500,000	\$1,858,000
ISIAL	Ţ.,JUU,JUU	+ 555,000	41,000,000

ATTACHMENT B

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS:
COPPER HILL PARK IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT
ADOPT MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION AND
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APPROVE REVISED PROJECT BUDGET; AND
ADOPT, ADVERTISE, AND AWARD
SPECS. 6816; CAPITAL PROJECT NO. 69537

MITAGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION (See Enclosure)

ATTACHMENT C

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS:
COPPER HILL PARK IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT
ADOPT MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION AND
MITIGATION MONITORING PROGRAM;
APPROVE REVISED PROJECT BUDGET; AND
ADOPT, ADVERTISE, AND AWARD
SPECS. 6816; CAPITAL PROJECT NO. 69537

PUBLISHING LEGAL ADVERTISEMENTS: In accordance with the State of California Public Contract Code Section 20125, you may publish once a week for 2 weeks in a weekly newspaper or ten times in a daily newspaper. Forward three reprints of this advertisement to Architectural Engineering Division, Department of Public Works, 900 South Fremont Avenue, 8th Floor, Alhambra, California 91803-1331.

OFFICIAL NOTICE INVITING BIDS

Notice is hereby given that the Director of Public Works will receive sealed bids for furnishing all materials, labor, and equipment required to complete construction for the following work:

			BID DOC	DATE OF BID
<u>SD</u>	<u>SPECS</u>	PROJECT	FEE	<u>OPENING</u>
5	6816	Copper Hill Park Improvements Project 21380 Copper Hill Drive Santa Clarita, CA 91350	\$75	August 9, 2011

Copies of the project manual and drawings may be obtained at the Cashier's office, Department of Public Works, 900 South Fremont Avenue, Mezzanine, Alhambra, California 91803, for the fee stated above. For bid information, please contact Ms. Loydi Nguyen of Architectural Engineering Division at (626) 458-2180. Each bid shall be submitted on the required form, sealed, and filed at the Cashier's office no later than 10:45 a.m. on the date indicated. Bids will be publicly opened, examined, and declared by the Department of Public Works at 11 a.m. on this date in the Main Conference Room, 5th Floor, at 900 South Fremont Avenue, Alhambra, California 91803.

This project requires the general contractor firm to possess an A or B license classification at the time of bid.

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The general contractor and all of its subcontractors of any tier shall be required to pay prevailing wages to all workers employed in the execution of the project in accordance with Labor Code Section 1770 et seq. Copies of the prevailing rate per diem wages are on file at the Department of Public Works, which shall be made available to any interested party upon request.

PREBID CONFERENCE

The Department of Public Works' Project Management Division will hold a prebid conference at 10 a.m. on July 26, 2011, at the project site, 21380 Copper Hill Drive, Santa Clarita, California 91350, to provide information on the scope of work and answer basic questions that the potential bidders may have. Detailed questions or additional information must be submitted in writing to Ms. Loydi Nguyen with the Department of Public Works' Architectural Engineering Division at Fax No. (626) 979-5311 or you may contact her at (626) 458-2180.

OTHER INSTRUCTIONS

The County supports and encourages equal opportunity contracting. The contractor shall make good faith efforts as defined in Section 2000 of the Public Contract Code relating to contracting with Community Business Enterprises.

The Board of Supervisors reserves the right to reject any or all bids or to waive technical or inconsequential errors and discrepancies in bids submitted in the public's interest.

Si necesita información en español, por favor llame al Telefono (626) 458-2563.



Upon 72 hours notice, the Department of Public Works can provide program information and publications in alternate formats or make other accommodations for people with disabilities. In addition, program documents are available at the Department of Public Works' main office in Alhambra (900 South Fremont Avenue), which is accessible to individuals with disabilities. To request accommodations ONLY or for more Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) information, please contact the Department of Public Works' ADA Coordinator at (626) 458-4081 or TDD (626) 282-7829, Monday through Thursday, from 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

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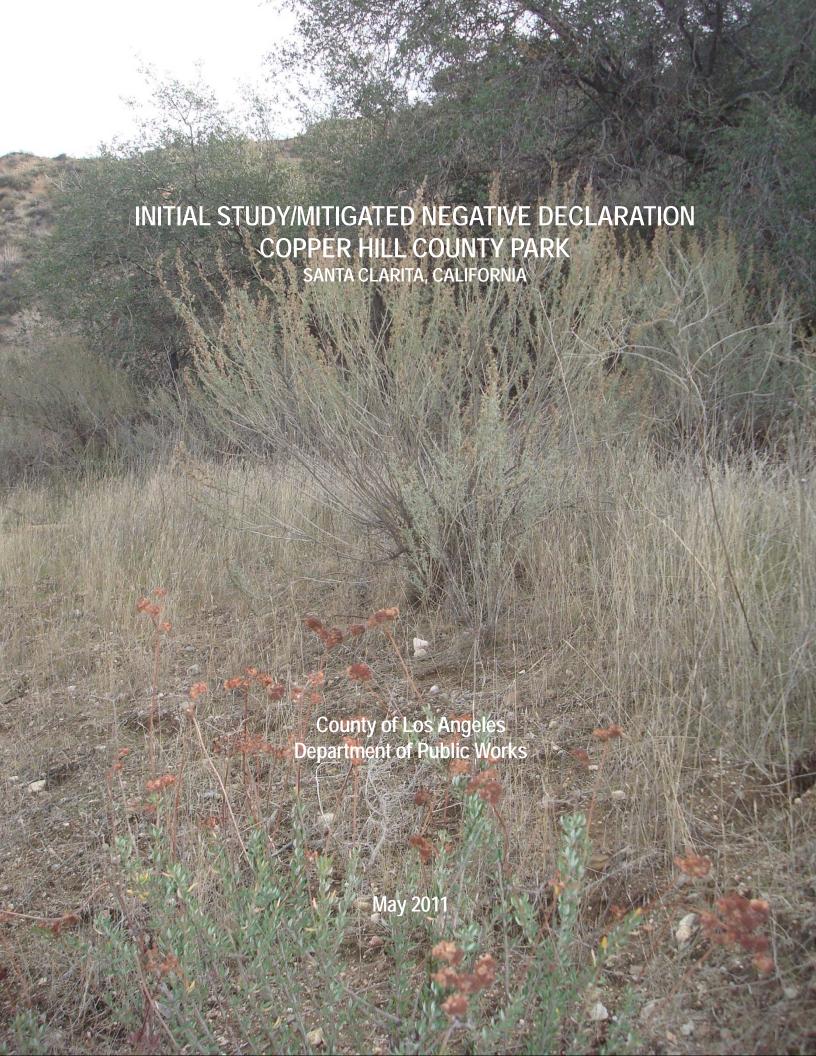


Con 72 horas de notificación, el Departamento de Obras Públicas puede proveerle información y publicaciones sobre el programa y formatos alternativos o hacer adaptaciones para personas con incapacidades. Además, documentación sobre el programa está disponible en la oficina principal del Departamento de Obras Públicas localizada en Alhambra (900 South Fremont Avenue), la cual es accesible para personas con incapacidades. Solamente si necesita solicitar adaptaciones o para mas información del ADA, póngase en contacto con nuestro Coordinador del ADA al (626) 458-4081 o TDD (626) 282-7829, de lunes a jueves de las 7 a.m. a 5:30 p.m.

By order of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles, State of California, dated July 12, 2011.

Specs. 6816

SACHI A. HAMAI, EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES



INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION COPPER HILL COUNTY PARK

SANTA CLARITA, CALIFORNIA





Prepared for County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works 900 S. Fremont Ave., 5th Floor Alhambra, California 91803

Prepared by
PARSONS
100 W. Walnut Street
Pasadena, California 91124

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

COPPER HILL COUNTY PARK

FINAL MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

The Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (Draft IS/MND) dated September 2010 for the Copper Hill County Park project was circulated for public review by the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works between September 19, 2010 and October 19, 2010. During this review period, four letters of comment were received from public agencies and no letters of comment were received from private citizens or interested groups. All letters received and responses to comments are included in Appendix D (*Public Review of the Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration*). In response to comments, revisions have been made to the text of the Draft IS/MND as noted herein. None of the significance determinations have been changed since circulation of the Draft IS/MND. No substantial changes to the Draft IS/MND have been made. Changes to the Draft IS/MND include:

- (1.) Section 1.9, *Background*, information on the in-lieu fees has been revised.
- (2.) Section 1.11, *Construction*, has been revised to indicate that a retaining wall will be constructed at the front of the park in order to ensure that adequate sight distance is provided for left turns out of the park's driveway.
- (3.) Section 1.13, Related Projects, information on Tentative Tract 52829 has been revised.
- (4.) Section 2.XVII.b and c, *Utilities and Service Systems*, information on existing sewer lines and stormwater drainage systems has been revised.
- (5.) Section 2.XVI.d, *Transportation/Traffic*, information has been added regarding the site analysis for left turns out of the park onto Copper Hill Avenue.
- (6.) Section 2.XVII.e, *Utilities and Service Systems,* the projected amount of wastewater to be generated by the project has been revised to 60 gallons per day.

The aforementioned changes have been incorporated directly into the Final IS/MND. These changes to the document are not considered to be substantial revisions to the IS/MND pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15073.5. New information added to the IS/MND clarifies previous information and all modifications are considered to be minor. None of these changes have resulted in any change to CEQA findings or in the severity of a previously identified impact in the Draft IS/MND. A recirculation of the document for public review is not required.

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INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

COPPER HILL COUNTY PARK, SANTA CLARITA, CALIFORNIA

The County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation proposes to construct and operate a new public park in Santa Clarita, unincorporated Los Angeles County, California. The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), as established by Public Resources Code §§ 21000 *et seq.* requires that the environmental implications of an action by a local agency be estimated and evaluated before project approval. This Initial Study has been prepared in accordance with Section 15365 of CEQA Guidelines (14 Cal. Code Reg. 1500 *et seq.*). This Initial Study provides the assessment for a determination of whether the project may have a significant effect on the environment.

SECTION 1. PROJECT INFORMATION

1.1 Project Title Copper Hill County Park

1.2 Lead Agency Name and Address

County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works 900 S. Fremont Ave., 5th Floor Alhambra, CA 92803-1331

1.3 Contact Person and Phone Number

David Palma, Project Manager

County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works

Project Management Division I

(626) 300-2339

1.4 Project Location

The proposed site for Copper Hill County Park is located at 21380 Copper Hill Drive, Santa Clarita, California 91350. The site is in an unincorporated area of Los Angeles County and is within Assessor's Parcel No. 3244-151-900 (Tract 46757) which includes L.A. County Flood Control District easements. Santa Clarita is approximately 30 miles northwest of downtown Los Angeles. Copper Hill County Park is approximately six miles east of the Golden State Freeway/Interstate 5 (I-5) (Figure 1). The park would be located on the south side of Copper Hill Drive at the intersection with Deer Springs Drive (Figure 2).

1.5 Project Sponsor's Name and Address

David Palma, Project Manager Project Management Division I

County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works

900 S. Fremont Ave., 5th Floor Alhambra, CA 92803-1331

1.6 General Plan Designation

The County of Los Angeles Department of Regional Planning designation for the proposed project site is Residential-Single

Family.

1.7 Zoning

The proposed site for Copper Hill County Park is zoned as Residential (R-1-5000) by the County of Los Angeles Department of

Regional Planning.



Figure 1. Location of the Proposed Project



Figure 2. Proposed Site for Copper Hill County Park

1.8 Description of the Proposed Project

The County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works proposes to construct a new 4.05-acre public park in the community of Santa Clarita in an unincorporated area of Los Angeles County, California. The proposed project would be constructed in two phases.

Phase 1 would include: a 16-vehicle parking lot with a turnaround area for emergency vehicles; open turf areas; concrete and decomposed granite walkways; Low Impact Development (LID) drainage improvements; a concrete stairway; irrigation system; lighting system; and, landscaping with trees. Electrical and water lines would be installed for security lighting and irrigation. The parking lot and walkways would be designed and constructed in compliance with Americans with Disability Act (ADA) requirements. The proposed park features to be constructed in Phase 1 are shown on Figure 3.



Figure 3. Preliminary Site Layout for Copper Hill County Park (Phase 1)

Phase 2 would include: a restroom building; a gazebo; a concrete play court/basketball court; play areas; picnic areas (location to be determined); increasing the parking lot to 22 spaces; all associated utility services (including a new fire hydrant along Copper Hill Drive); a concrete stairway off the public walkway adjacent to Copper Hill Drive; and, planting of shrubs. The second phase of the park has not been funded. Currently anticipated features of the Phase 2 park are shown on Figure 4.



Figure 4. Preliminary Site Layout for Copper Hill County Park (Phase 2)

1.9 Background

The proposed park site was originally part of the Haskell Canyon Subdivision (Tentative Tract Map 47657). This project was approved in October 1997 for the development of 437 single family residential lots, 102 multi-family dwelling units and 5.1 acres of commercial uses. Subsequent amendments to the approved tentative tract map occurred through 2002 with a final total of 536 dwelling units. The proposed park was to have been part of the eleven-tract residential development in Santa Clarita that extended north and south of Copper Hill Drive and from Haskell Canyon Road on the southwest.

Although housing in the Haskell Canyon Subdivision was constructed, the original park envisioned in 1997 to be part of this subdivision was never built. The Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation's Park Obligation Report for Tentative Map 47657 (November 27, 2002) indicated that the development's park land obligation was 5.10 acres and in-lieu fees¹ due were \$622,200.00. The arrangement set forth in this park obligation report required the developer to: 1) dedicate 4.05 acres of public parkland; and, 2) pay \$128,100 in in-lieu fees. The in-lieu fees were paid on July 11, 2002.

The 1975 Quimby Act, as implemented in Section 66477 of the California Government Code, allows the legislative body of a city of county to require the dedication of and/or impose a requirement of the payment of fees in lieu thereof, or a combination of both, for park or recreational purposes as a condition of development. These fees are known as park in-lieu or Quimby fees.

The undeveloped site has terraced and planted perimeter slopes, while the interior of the site has been rough graded and cleared. The site is fenced from public access and includes easements for Los Angeles County Flood Control District maintenance activities. Flood control structures on the site include a concrete inlet, drains and pipe structures used to capture stormwater runoff.

There are eleven public parks operated by either the County of Los Angeles or the City of Santa Clarita within three miles of the proposed site for the Copper Hill County Park. Four of the County parks are designated as passive parks which are facilities with no structured activities or programs offered. Scheduling of special events (i.e., group picnics, parties or weddings) in Los Angeles County passive parks may be offered on a reservation and rental basis subject to approval. A summary of existing public parks within three miles of the proposed site for Copper Hill County Park is provided on Table 1.

Table 1. Public Parks Within 3 Miles of the Proposed Site

				Size		Multi-Use	Passive
No.	Name	Owner/ Operator	Location	(acres)	Distance	Park	Park
1	Bouquet Canyon Park	City of Santa Clarita	Santa Clarita	10.5	0.5 mile south	Х	
2	David March Park	County of Los Angeles	Santa Clarita	12.0	1.3 miles southeast		Х
3	Pacific Crest Park	County of Los Angeles	Santa Clarita	9.0	1.3 miles northwest		Х
4	Pamplico Park	City of Santa Clarita	Santa Clarita	7.6	1.4 miles southeast	Х	
5	Central Park	City of Santa Clarita	Santa Clarita	80.0	1.9 miles southwest	Х	
6	Santa Clarita Park	City of Santa Clarita	Santa Clarita	7.3	2.0 miles southwest	Х	
7	Chesebrough Park	County of Los Angeles	Valencia	6.8	2.3 miles west	Х	
8	Northbridge Park	County of Los Angeles	Valencia	9.0	2.4 miles west		Х
9	Tesoro Adobe Historic Park	County of Los Angeles	Valencia	2.2	2.8 miles west	Х	
10	West Creek Park	County of Los Angeles	Santa Clarita	16.8	3.0 miles west		Χ
11	North Oaks Park	City of Santa Clarita	Canyon Country	2.3	3.0 miles southeast	Х	

1.10 Purpose of the Project

The purpose of the project is to improve recreational and community opportunities in the County by providing a new neighborhood park for use by the general public.

1.11 Construction

The proposed Copper Hill County Park would be constructed in two phases: **Phase 1** would result in the following activities:

- Demolition would be limited to removal of the existing concrete inlet and V-drain structures serving as flood control on the existing site. New utilities to be constructed for the park would include: a new catch basin and storm drain system; new electrical circuits for park lighting; and, water lines for a drinking water and irrigation system.
- Site preparation would include: installation of Best Management Practices (BMP) for stormwater pollution prevention (i.e., sandbags); and, clearing and grading over the entire 4.05-acre site for placement of the parking lot and stairway, drainage improvements, open turf play area (grass only), and concrete walkways. It is estimated that the project would result in the need for 4.224 cubic yards (cy) of soil to

be cut, 2,887 cy of soil to be filled, and 1,337 cy of soil to be exported from the site. A total of 1,436 cy of soil would be over-excavated (removal, replacement and compaction of onsite soils to meet geotechnical design parameters)) to include removal of alluvial soil and compaction. The maximum depth of excavation would be approximately 5 ft below ground surface.

- Asphalt and concrete paving (parking lot, turnaround area, drainage improvements, curbs and concrete pads for benches) would cover approximately one of the 4.05 acres of the park. Walkways would be paved with concrete or be covered with decomposed granite. Porous asphalt concrete would be used in limited areas in accordance with LID requirements.
- Landscaping would cover the remaining three acres in the park and include planting of: approximately 107 trees around the park perimeter, parking lot and walkways (Chinese flame tree, crape myrtle, London plane tree, and purple leaf plum); and, hydroseeding of dwarf fescue for turf. The new irrigation system will cover approximately 3 acres of landscaped area (to cover turfed areas).
- The proposed park would be accessed by a single entrance along Copper Hill Drive. The existing curb fronting the park would be enlarged to comply with Los Angeles County Department of Public Works requirements. The driveway would be a two-way access into a parking lot.
- The front of the park will be designed to provide code compliant sight distance (430 ft at 50 m.p.h.) to allow vehicles to safely make left turns out of the park driveway onto Copper Hill Drive. To provide the required sight distance when exiting the park in a vehicle, it is estimated that approximately 287 cubic yards of soil would be cut from the slope at the front of the park and approximately 172 cubic yards of soil would be backfilled at the slope. A masonry block retaining wall would be constructed on either side of the existing small L.A. County-owned retaining wall adjacent to the existing Southern California Edison electrical transformers. This new retaining wall would extend approximately 70 ft to the east, and 30 ft to the west, of the existing wall. The entire length of the new retaining wall would vary in height from approximately 8 inches to 4 feet.
- A total of 16 parking spaces, including two (2) ADA-compliant spaces and a ramp, would be constructed inside the park south of Copper Hill Drive. A concrete stairway (17 steps separated by a landing) with handrails would be constructed to provide passage from the parking lot to the upper turf area of the park. Roadway modifications and improvements (i.e., striping and left turn pocket) to provide safe access into the proposed park will be included in accordance with Los Angeles County Department of Public Works and Department of Regional Planning requirements.

 The park would include energy efficient exterior lighting of walkways using fifteen (15) 25- to 30-ft high light standards.

Construction would be limited to the interior portion of the site without any disturbance to the terraced slopes along the eastern and southern perimeter. While some temporary lane closures may be required, closures of entire roads would not be expected during the construction period. Construction vehicles and equipment would be staged onsite in the existing graded site. The construction site will be fenced from access during the construction period.

Construction of Phase 1 of the park would require approximately six months and is expected to start in late 2011.

Construction of Phase 2 would result in the addition of:

- a 1-story, approximately 600-sq ft restroom building approximately 15-ft high and with 1 exterior water fountain;
- a one-story, approximately 2,500-sq ft gazebo approximately 25-ft high;
- play areas (i.e., tot lot, playground and area with swings);
- picnic areas with concrete tables and benches;
- a play court/basketball court;
- six additional parking spaces (total of 22);
- a new fire hydrant along Copper Hill Drive;
- a stairway from Copper Hill Drive to the restroom area; and,
- planting of shrubs.

The maximum depth of excavation for Phase 2 construction would be approximately 5 ft below existing ground surface. The second phase of the park would require approximately eight months for construction (start date to be determined). This estimated duration is based on construction of other parks of similar character and size. No overlap in construction between Phase 1 and Phase 2 is expected to occur.

Copper Hill County Park would be owned and operated by the County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation:

- Phase 1 of the park would be operated as a passive park without structured activities or scheduled programs. Special events would not be permitted in the Phase 1 park.
- Phase 2 of the park, which includes a restroom and gazebo, would continue to operate as a passive park. Scheduling of special events in the Phase 2 park would require approval by the County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation. It is assumed that up to 20 special events (such as small group picnics, parties or weddings as limited by available parking) would be permitted in the park each year.

It is expected that park users will primarily be residents from the surrounding neighborhood in northern Santa Clarita. The park would be open from dawn to dusk daily. Access to the new park would be from a new gated driveway/entrance along Copper Hill Drive across from Deer Springs Drive.

1.12 Operation

1.13 Related Projects

There are three other known projects within a 1-mile radius of the proposed Copper Hill County Park:

- In 2002, the Saugus Union School District considered building a new elementary school southeast of Copper Hill Drive and Haskell Canyon Road on 20 acres of land at the end of Wellston Drive. The school site would be east of Haskell Canyon Road and approximately 0.5 mile south of the proposed site for Copper Hill County Park. Wellston Drive is an existing north-south local street which would be extended to the north to serve the new school site. In 2006, the District proposed an expansion of this plan to include importation and compacting of up to 260,000 cubic yards of excess soil on land adjacent to the site owned by the housing developer (Dentec Holdings, Inc.). The land would be used for school purposes. A CEQA Mitigated Negative Declaration for the new school was adopted in November 2006. This project is on hold due to funding and there are no plans to construct the new school at this time (SUSD, 2011).
- In 2005, Dentec Holdings, Inc. obtained approval of Tentative Tract Map No. 52829 directly south of the proposed site for Copper Hill County Park. Tract 52829 would include the construction of 95 single-family lots and open space on 75 acres. Grading of land for construction of housing may initiate in late 2011 (Singh, 2011). In order to provide access for school-related traffic from the north part of Santa Clarita, the developer would be constructing a secondary access road to the north of the housing. The alignment of this new road is not known and there is no schedule for road construction at this time.
- Since 1999, the Copper Hill Homes subdivision project has been proposed for Copper Hill Drive and Benz Road approximately 0.25 mile east of the proposed Copper Hill County Park site. Between 2003 and 2008, the number of homes and open space lots at the site was revised. A Draft EIR for 31 homes on a 6.91-acre site was released for public review in August 2008. On March 18, 2009, the vesting of the tentative tract, zone change and conditional use permit was denied by the Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning, and the applications were withdrawn. The subdivision is in the process of being redesigned, and will require new applications. For this reason, there is no schedule for planned construction (LADRP, 2010).

For purposes of this evaluation, it is assumed that one of the above projects (grading for housing in Tract 52829) would have construction that occurs at the same time as construction of the proposed park. For this reason, there is one related project considered in the cumulative impacts analysis for this project.

1.14 Surrounding Land Uses and Setting

The site for the proposed park is surrounded by single-family residential areas to the north, east and west/southwest with open space to the south (as shown on Figure 2).

1.15 Other Agencies Whose Approval is Required

Agencies whose approval will be required are provided on Table 2.

Table 2. Agencies and Approvals Required

No.	Agency	Approval Required
1	County of Los Angeles - Department of Regional Planning	Plan Check and Review
2	County of Los Angeles - Department of Public Works [Building and Safety, Grading and Drainage, and Land Development Division]	Plan Check and Review
3	County of Los Angeles Fire Department	Plan Check and Review for Emergency Access

Environmental Factors Potentially Affected:

			ected by this project, involving at least γ the checklist on the following pages.
□ Ae:	sthetics	☐ Agricultural and Forestry Resources	☐ Air Quality
☐ Bio	logical Resources	☐ Cultural Resources	☐ Geology /Soils
□ Gre	eenhouse Gas Emissions	☐ Hazards & Hazardous Materials	☐ Hydrology /Water Quality
☐ Lar	nd Use /Planning	☐ Mineral Resources	☐ Noise
	oulation /Housing	☐ Public Services	☐ Recreation
☐ Tra	nsportation /Traffic	☐ Utilities /Service Systems	☐ Mandatory Findings of Significance
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	eted by the Lead Agency)	
On th	e basis of this initial eval	uation:	
	I find that the proposed NEGATIVE DECLARAT		ant effect on the environment, and a
☑	will not be a significant	effect in this case because revisions	icant effect on the environment, there in the project have been made by or IVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
		project MAY have a significant effec PACT REPORT is required.	t on the environment, and an
	significant unless mitiga adequately analyzed in been addressed by miti	IENTAL IMPACT REPORT is require	at least one effect 1) has been blicable legal standards, and 2) has er analysis as described on attached
	because all potentially s NEGATIVE DECLARAT mitigated pursuant to the	proposed project could have a significinificant effects (a) have been analy TON pursuant to applicable standard at earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLA at are imposed upon the proposed put a secondary.	lyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or ds, and (b) have been avoided or RATION, including revisions or
	Signature		04/28/2011 Date
Ι	Pavid Palma		County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
	Printed Name	·	For

EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS:

- A brief explanation is required for all answers except "No Impact" answers that are adequately supported by the information sources a lead agency cites in the parentheses following each question. A "No Impact" answer is adequately supported if the referenced information sources show that the impact simply does not apply to projects like the one involved (e.g., the project falls outside a fault rupture zone). A "No Impact" answer should be explained where it is based on project-specific factors as well as general standards (e.g., the project will not expose sensitive receptors to pollutants, based on a project-specific screening analysis).
- 2) All answers must take account of the whole action involved, including off-site as well as on-site, cumulative as well as project-level, indirect as well as direct, and construction as well as operational impacts.
- 3) Once the lead agency has determined that a particular physical impact may occur, then the checklist answers must indicate whether the impact is potentially significant, less than significant with mitigation, or less than significant. "Potentially Significant Impact" is appropriate if there is substantial evidence that an effect may be significant. If there are one or more "Potentially Significant Impact" entries when the determination is made, an EIR is required.
- "Negative Declaration: Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated" applies where the incorporation of mitigation measures has reduced an effect from "Potentially Significant Impact" to a "Less Than Significant Impact." The lead agency must describe the mitigation measures, and briefly explain how they reduce the effect to a less than significant level (mitigation measures from "Earlier Analyses," <u>as described in (5) below, may be cross-referenced).</u>
- 5) Earlier analyses may be used where, pursuant to the tiering, program EIR, or other CEQA process, an effect has been adequately analyzed in an earlier EIR or negative declaration. Section 15063(c)(3)(D). In this case, a brief discussion should identify the following:
 - Earlier Analysis Used. Identify and state where they are available for review.
 - b) Impacts Adequately Addressed. Identify which effects from the above checklist were within the scope of and adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and state whether such effects were addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis.
 - c) Mitigation Measures. For effects that are "Less than Significant with Mitigation Measures Incorporated," describe the mitigation measures which were incorporated or refined from the earlier document and the extent to which they address site-specific conditions for the project.
- 6) Lead agencies are encouraged to incorporate into the checklist references to information sources for potential impacts (e.g., general plans, zoning ordinances). Reference to a previously prepared or outside document should, where appropriate, include a reference to the page or pages where the statement is substantiated.
- Supporting Information Sources: A source list should be attached, and other sources used or individuals contacted should be cited in the discussion.
- 8) This is only a suggested form, and lead agencies are free to use different formats; however, lead agencies should normally address the questions from this checklist that are relevant to a project's environmental effects in whatever format is selected.
- 9) The explanation of each issue should identify:
 - a) the significance criteria or threshold, if any, used to evaluate each question; and
 - b) the mitigation measure identified, if any, to reduce the impact to less than significance

SECTION 2. CEQA ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

The Environmental Checklist and discussion of potential environmental effects were completed in accordance with Section 15063(d)3 of the California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines to determine if the proposed project may have any significant impacts on the environment.

A brief explanation is provided for all determinations. A "No Impact" or "Less Than Significant Impact" determination is made when the project would not have any impact or would not have a significant effect on the environment for that issue area, respectively, based on a project-specific analysis.

Potential Impacts	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
I. Aesthetics				
Would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?				Х

Scenic resources in the Santa Clarita Valley, as described in the Santa Clarita Valley Area Plan (County of Los Angeles, 2009) include scenic mountains, canyons, woodlands and water bodies. Well-defined ridgelines, slopes and canyons provide a visual backdrop to the urban environment, creating a sense of place for each neighborhood and allow opportunities for residents to experience the natural environment (County of Los Angeles, 2009). The nearest scenic resources to the site are ridgelines in surrounding mountains and corridors of open space associated with Haskell and Bouquet canyons over 0.5 mile, and not visible, from the site. The ridgeline serving as the backdrop of the proposed park is not a defined scenic resource in the Santa Clarita Valley. There are no scenic resources at, or visible from, the project site.

The proposed public park would not be visible from any scenic vistas in the area because of its location behind the hills south of the site. The proposed park would be a new visual element in the area with limited visibility from surrounding areas. The proposed park would not obstruct views of the mountains or other scenic aspects of the area because design features would not obstruct the view of the mountain in the backdrop. The Phase 2 restroom and gazebo would be one-story structures that would not obscure or obstruct the existing ridgeline in the background when viewed from Copper Hill Drive. Therefore, the proposed project would have no effect on scenic vistas in the area.

b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?		X		
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There are no official State or County Scenic Highways in the project area. Although the proposed park would be visible in the local area, there would be no substantial damage to scenic resources within a state scenic highway. The nearest State scenic highway is a segment of State Route 2 (Angeles Crest Highway) beginning from 2.7 miles north of State Route 210 at La Canada to the San Bernardino County line. This 55-mile segment of state scenic highway is over 22 miles, and not visible, from the proposed site. The view of the proposed site includes a backdrop of rolling hills south of the site which includes oak trees outside the work limits of the proposed park. No rock outcroppings are visible in the hills south of the site. Therefore, impacts from the proposed project on scenic resources would be considered less than significant.

Potential Impacts	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
c) Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?			Х	

The visual character of the project site is undeveloped with surrounding residential land uses. The visual field at the site is an urbanized residential area composed of natural features including a backdrop of rolling hills to the south and southeast. The view from the south, east and west of the site includes one- and two-story residences. The proposed park would not alter the view of the existing ridgeline southeast of the site (Figure 5).

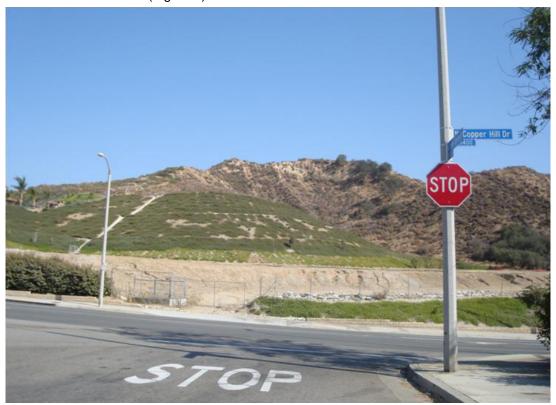


Figure 5. View of Existing Site for Proposed Park Along Copper Hill Drive, Santa Clarita (Looking Southeast at Future Driveway into the Park)

The public park would become a permanent visible aspect as seen when looking to the southeast along Copper Hill Drive and from Deer Springs Drive. The park would also be visible from the backyards of residences on the westernmost reach of Cross Creek Drive immediately east of the site. The park would not be visible from homes on Brookview Terrace (west of the site) due to its lower elevation. The visual change would include new structures: parking lot, walkways and turf for Phase 1; and, gazebo and restroom for Phase 2. This visual change would not be considered a substantial degradation of the visual quality of the area because the existing view is composed of a graded, dirt-covered site of limited visual quality.

The proposed project would not result in any conflicts with plans and policies for preservation of open space, and would not adversely impact the visual character and quality of the project area. The proposed project would not substantially degrade the visual character of the site and its surroundings. Therefore, impacts to the visual character and quality of the area would be considered less than significant.

Potential Impacts	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare, which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?			x	

The existing site does not contain any artificial lighting. The surrounding area is characterized by typical urban sources of light and glare including street lighting along Copper Hill Drive. Construction would not include the use of any reflective materials, and would not be expected to generate a substantial amount of light or glare in the surrounding community. Construction activities would occur during daylight hours; therefore, no new sources of artificial lighting would be necessary during construction at the park site.

The proposed Phase 1 park would include artificial lighting of the parking lot and walkways within its interior. Approximately fifteen (15) 25-ft and 30-ft high light standards would be installed. Security lighting of the park would be on during the entire night, and directed downward towards the interior of the park. This lighting would not adversely affect the day or nighttime views in the area. The security lighting would not be visible from any of the nearest residences to the park, nor would any glare result. Phase 2 would include lighting of the restroom and gazebo however, no sports lighting of the play court/basketball court would be installed. Cars entering the parking lot would not be expected to generate glare from headlights into the neighborhood because the parking lot and the park would be closed at dusk. Therefore, impacts from light and glare would be considered less than significant.

II. Agriculture and Forest Resources In determining whether impacts to agriculture resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Department of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. In determining whether impacts to forest resources, including timberland, are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection regarding the state's inventory of forest land, including the Forest and Range Assessment Project and the Forest Legacy		
measurement methodology provided in Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board. Would the project:		
a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?		Х

The State of California Department of Conservation Division of Land Resources has surveyed land in Southern California as part of its Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program (FMMP). The FMMP

Geographic Information System (GIS) data shows that the project site is classified as Urban and Built-Up Land and does not contain farmland of unique or local importance (FMMP, 2008). The site does not contain active farmland. The proposed project would not result in the conversion of farmland to non-agricultural use. Therefore, impacts to farmland would not occur.

Potential Impacts	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?				Х

Williamson Act contracts are applicable to land in agricultural preserves and restrict specific parcels of land to agriculture or related open space use. There are no Williamson Act contracts in effect for the project site or surrounding area. No portion of the site is zoned for agricultural use. Therefore, the proposed project will not result in any impacts to existing agricultural zoning or Williamson Act contracts.

c)	Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?		х
	Government Code Section 51104(g))?		

The proposed project would consist of a new park on vacant land that is currently zoned as Residential (R-1); property in Zone R-1 may be used for parks provided a conditional use permit has first been obtained (Part 1 of Chapter 22.56). The previous zone change and conditional use permit for the Haskell Canyon Subdivision (Project No. 88-082) is in effect for the project site. There is no land within the boundaries of the proposed park site that is currently used as forest land, timberland or timberland production. The proposed project would not result in any conflict with existing zoning or cause rezoning of any forest land as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g), timberland as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526, or timberland zoned Timberland Production as defined by Government Code section 51104(g). Therefore, no impact to forest land would occur.

d) Result in the loss of forest land or		Х	
conversion of forest land into non-forest			
use?			

The proposed project is not located on any forest land. The project would not result in the loss of any forest land nor would it result in the conversion of any forest land into non-forest use. Therefore, there would be no impact to forest land.

е)	Involve other changes in the existing environment that, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?				X	
----	--	--	--	--	---	--

The proposed project would consist of a new park on vacant land. There is no land within the boundaries of the proposed park that is currently used as farmland or forest land. Therefore, the proposed project would not result in the conversion of farmland into a non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land into non-forest use. Therefore, there would be no impacts to farmland and forest land.

Potential Impacts	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
III. Air Quality Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations. Would the project:				
a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?			Х	

The project area is located in the South Coast Air Basin and managed by the South Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD). The SCAQMD is required, pursuant to the Clean Air Act of 1988, to reduce emissions of criteria pollutants for which the basin is in non-attainment. Strategies to achieve these emissions reductions are included in the SCAQMD Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP) for the region. The AQMP is based on Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) population projections for communities within the Basin. Conformance with the AQMP for future development projects is determined by demonstrating compliance with local land use plans and/or population projections. The proposed park would not conflict or obstruct implementation of the AQMP. No land uses are proposed that are different from those anticipated for the property in long range planning efforts by the County of Los Angeles Department of Regional Planning. The proposed park would meet goals and objectives of the local land use plan because it would not exceed emissions thresholds or obstruct implementation of this air quality plan. Therefore, the project is in compliance with the AQMP and impacts would be less than significant.

The proposed project will result in temporary air pollutant emissions during Phase 1 construction of the park, parking lot, walkways, and utilities. Temporary air pollutant emissions would also be generated during Phase 2 construction of the restroom building, gazebo and play court/basketball court.

Table 3 provides a summary of the maximum estimated daily air pollutant emissions that would occur during construction with simultaneous use of various heavy equipment on the site. For Phase 1 construction of the proposed park, these emissions reflect the maximum daily emissions over the course of site preparation/demolition, grading, and asphalt/concrete paving. For Phase 2 construction, emissions on Table 3 reflect maximum daily emissions over the course of grading (of surfaces for the restroom, gazebo and play court), asphalt/concrete paving, building construction and architectural coatings (painting and other surface treatments).

The values on Table 3 reflect the maximum daily (non-mitigated) emissions based on an estimated mix of construction equipment in use at the site for the specific activity. Dust and exhaust emissions are reflected in particulate matter emission rates. These estimated emissions would be less than SCAQMD significance thresholds. Construction-related air pollutant emissions will not result in any conflict with objectives or implementation of the SCAQMD AQMP. Impacts to air quality from construction are considered to be less than significant.

The proposed project will generate air pollutant emissions from the use of construction equipment and construction worker vehicles (one vehicle per worker and an estimated 12 workers per day). These emissions will not exceed SCAQMD significance thresholds. Construction activities will be temporary and will not be expected to result in any adverse, long-term effects on air quality because the generation of air pollutants will be limited to the 6- or 8-month construction period associated with Phases 1 and 2, respectively. Impacts to air quality from construction of the proposed project will be considered less than significant.

Table 3. Estimated Air Pollutant Emissions from Construction of Copper Hill County Park

	Fatimate d		Emissions (lb/day) ^a					
Phase	Estimated Duration	Activity	СО	ROG	NOX	sox	PM ₁₀	PM _{2.5}
6 months	6 months	Construction of Parking Lot, Turf Areas, Walkways and Utilities	9.44	1.99	16.92	0.00	5.38	1.71
		SCAQMD Significance Threshold ^b	550.0	75.0	100.0	150.0	150.0	55.0
		Exceed Threshold?	No	No	No	No	No	No
2	8 months	Construction of Restroom, Gazebo and Play Court/Basketball Court	7.90	1.61	12.60	0.00	1.09	0.68
		SCAQMD Significance Threshold ^b	550.0	75.0	100.0	150.0	150.0	55.0
		Exceed Threshold?	No	No	No	No	No	No

Heavy equipment that likely could be used simultaneously during Phase 1 is as follows: 1 bulldozer, 1 tractor/loader/backhoe, 1 concrete industrial saw during site preparation/demolition; 1 bulldozer, 2 graders, 2 tractor/loader/backhoes, 2 water trucks during grading; and, 1 cement/mortar mixer, 1 paver, 1 paving equipment, 1 roller during asphalt/concrete paving. Heavy equipment that likely would be used during Phase 2 is as follows: 1 bulldozer, 1 tractor/loader/backhoe, 1 grader and 1 water truck during grading; and, 4 cement/mortar mixers, 1 paver, 1 tractor and 1 roller during asphalt/concrete paving.

CO = carbon monoxide $SO_x = sulfur oxides$

ROG = reactive organic gases PM_{10} = particulate matter less than or equal to 10 microns in diameter $PM_{2.5}$ = particulate matter less than or equal to 2.5 microns in diameter

Once construction of the park is completed, operational emissions would consist of vehicular emissions (from visitors and maintenance personnel) and from energy usage for park lighting. It is estimated that: (a) daily visitor use would result in 107 vehicles per day based on vehicle trip generation rates for a facility of this type; and, (b) park maintenance would be limited to less than five (5) vehicles at the site per day based on the number of maintenance employees at other parks of this size. Maintenance vehicles would include heavy duty trucks and finishing or flail mowers (for limited periodic turf maintenance). During Phase 1, park operations would not be expected to result in any large gatherings or special events. Upon completion of Phase 2 construction (and opening of the Phase 2 of the park), visitor use would be expected to increase due to the availability of the gazebo and play court/basketball court with occasional large gatherings (i.e., group picnics) subject to approval by the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation. Phase 2 of the park would continue to function as a passive park without scheduled activities or programs (i.e., league soccer would not be expected to be allowed in this park). Table 4 provides a summary of estimated air pollutant emissions during operation of the park (emissions would result from visitor and maintenance personnel vehicle exhaust only).

Table 4. Estimated Air Pollutant Emissions from Operation of Copper Hill County Park

	Emissions (lb/day) a					
Source	СО	ROG	NOX	sox	PM ₁₀	PM _{2.5}
Phase 1 Park with Parking Lot, Turf Areas, Walkways and Utilities	8.02	0.65	0.87	0.01	0.07	0.05
SCAQMD Significance Threshold ^b	550	55	55	150	150	55
Exceed Threshold for Phase 1?	No	No	No	No	No	No
Phase 2 Park with Restroom Building, Gazebo and Play Court/Basketball Court	12.99	1.01	1.18	0.01	1.60	0.32
SCAQMD Significance Threshold ^b	550	55	55	150	150	55
Exceed Threshold for Phase 2?	No	No	No	No	No	No

^a Source: URBEMIS model output for 4-acre park.

The values on Table 4 reflect the maximum daily (non-mitigated) emissions associated with operation of the park. Emissions from operation of the park on a normal day and with an increase in patrons

^a Source: URBEMIS model output for 4-acre park using composite emissions for estimated heavy equipment mix for each activity.

^b Source: SCAQMD, 2008

^b Source: SCAQMD, 2008

associated with additional facilities in Phase 2 would not exceed SCAQMD significance thresholds. For these reasons, impacts to air quality associated with operation of the proposed park would be considered less than significant.

No mitigation measures are required because impacts to air quality are not considered significant. The proposed project will incorporate the following construction best management practices to reduce air pollutant emissions during the construction period:

- During construction, emissions of particulate matter can be reduced by approximately 50 percent with watering for dust control. All disturbed areas, including storage piles which are not being actively used for construction, shall be effectively stabilized for dust emissions using water, chemical stabilizer or suppressants, covered with a tarp or other suitable cover. Unpaved surfaces will be effectively stabilized of dust emissions using water, chemical stabilizer or suppressant. The construction contractor will conduct site watering on a daily basis or as appropriate depending on weather conditions.
- During construction, traffic speeds for vehicles and construction equipment on unpaved areas shall be limited to 15 miles per hour (mph).
- During construction, excavation and grading activities shall be suspended when winds exceed 20 mph.
- During construction, the construction contractor will be responsible for ensuring that: equipment idling time is limited to 15 minutes maximum; equipment is shut off if idling exceeds 15 minutes; and, hours of operation for heavy duty equipment will not exceed 8 hours per day.

Potential Impacts	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?			Х	

The proposed project will generate air pollutant emissions during construction and operations. These emissions will not exceed SCAQMD significance thresholds. The proposed project will not violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation. There are no open cases with SCAQMD violations in Santa Clarita (zip code 91350) as of the date of this document (SCAQMD, 2010). Therefore, impacts to air quality from construction of the proposed project will be considered less than significant.

c) Result in a cumulatively considering increase of any criteria pollutant the project region is non-attaining an applicable federal or state an quality standard (including releasemissions that exceed quantitate thresholds for ozone precursors	for which ent under pient air ling re
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The project area is located in the South Coast Air Basin and managed by the South Coast Air Quality Management District. The nearest monitoring stations are in Santa Clarita, Burbank and Reseda. The South Coast Air Basin is classified as a non-attainment area for ozone (O₃) and particulate matter (PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5}), and is in attainment status for nitrogen dioxide (NO₂), carbon monoxide (CO), sulfur oxides (SOx) and lead (Pb). The net increase in emissions of these pollutants from construction of the proposed project, or its operation, would not cause an exceedance of federal or state standards. There is one other known construction project planned within 1.0 mile of the site that would occur during the same time frame as the proposed project.

One known project planned within 1.0 mile of the project site at Copper Hill County Park may occur during the same time frame as the proposed project. Grading for new housing in Tract 52829 directly

south of the project site is expected to initiate in late 2011. The County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works would be constructing the proposed park within the same timeframe.

Based on the anticipated schedules, estimated air pollutant emissions from the housing project could overlap with the proposed project. Grading emissions were added to emissions from construction of the proposed project to determine cumulative emissions. Table 5 identifies the estimated air pollutant emissions from the cumulative condition that could occur during construction of the proposed project.

Table 5. Estimated Cumulative Air Pollutant Emissions During Construction of Copper Hill County Park

	Emissions (lb/day)					
Source	со	ROG	NO _x	sox	PM ₁₀	
Grading for New Housing in Tract 52829	12.97	2.86	23.50	0.00	42.78	
Proposed Project (Phase 1 park)	8.02	0.65	0.87	0.01	0.07	
Cumulative Emissions	20.99	3.51	24.37	0.01	42.85	
SCAQMD Significance Threshold ^a	550	75	100	150	150	
Exceed Threshold?	No	No	No	No	No	

Source: SCAQMD, 2008

CO = carbon monoxide

 SO_X = sulfur oxides

ROG = reactive organic gases NO_x = nitrogen oxides PM_{10} = particulate matter less than or equal to 10 microns in diameter $PM_{2.5}$ = particulate matter less than or equal to 2.5 microns in diameter

As shown on this table, cumulative emissions will not exceed the SCAQMD significance thresholds. Therefore, impacts from cumulatively considerable air pollutant emissions would be considered less than significant.

Potential Impacts	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?			Х	

Sensitive receptors near the proposed site include residences and child care centers. The nearest sensitive receptors to the site are residences along Brookview Terrace, Copper Hill Drive and Cross Creek Drive approximately 75, 80 and 100 ft feet from the perimeter of the proposed park site. The nearest two child care centers are approximately 0.6 mile south and southwest of the site. The nearest public park is the 10.5-acre Bouquet Canyon Park approximately 0.5 mile south of the site and operated by the City of Santa Clarita. Due to the localized nature of construction activities and the pollution control measures that would be conducted as described in Section 2.III.a), residents and community members would not be expected to be exposed to substantial construction-related pollutants as a result of the proposed project. Construction and operational emissions will be lower than the SCAQMD significance thresholds. Therefore, impacts to sensitive receptors will be considered less than significant.

e) Create objectionable odors affecting a		Х	
substantial number of people?			

No activities would occur, and no materials or chemicals would be stored on-site, that would have the potential to cause odor impacts during project activities at the site. Painting would be limited to road striping/signs, with surface coating of the restroom and gazebo in Phase 2, and would not be expected to generate odors discernible to any residents along Brookview Terrace, Copper Hill Drive and Cross Creek Drive because of the distance and elevation from the site. With the exception of temporary painting activities and construction vehicle exhaust associated with the park, no odor-generating activities will occur at the site. These odors are not expected to be discernible to the nearest residences because odors would be localized on the immediate site and dissipate rapidly. The use of water-based paints as required by the SCAQMD will limit the generation of odors. Adverse odor impacts

affecting a substantial number of people will not be expected. Therefore, impacts from odors are considered less than significant.

Potential Impacts	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
IV. Biological Resources				
Would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?		×		

An impact to candidate, sensitive or special status plant and animal species would be considered significant if such species were to be subjected to direct or indirect habitat modification. A review of the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB) indicates that three listed species have been recorded in the project vicinity, as shown on Table 6. Each of these species has formal protection either under the federal Endangered Species Act and/or the California Endangered Species Act of 1984.

Table 6. Listed Species Recorded in the Project Vicinity

No.	Common Name	Scientific Name	Federal Status	State Status
Plan	ts			
1	Slender-horned spineflower	Dodecahema leptoceras	Endangered	Endangered
2	California orcutt grass	Orcuttia californica	Endangered	Endangered
Birds	3			
3	Coastal California gnatcatcher	Polioptila californica californica	Threatened	(none)

The proposed site for the park was surveyed by a terrestrial ecologist on December 17, 2009. Neither direct sightings nor indirect evidence of species considered sensitive by the State of California, and no Federal- or State-listed threatened or endangered species, were observed in the vicinity of the proposed site or would be expected to inhabit the study area.

The park would be constructed entirely within the vacant 4.05-acre property where no native biotic communities remain. This is because the site has previously been modified during construction of housing. None of the species previously recorded in the project area are expected to inhabit the project area for the following reasons:

- Slender-horned spineflower occurs in chaparral and coastal scrub, particularly alluvial fan sage scrub, on flood deposited terraces and washes at elevations of approximately 650 to 2,500 feet. The population of slender-horned spineflower historically recorded in the Santa Clarita area has probably been eliminated by development. Last observed in 1893, the range for this plant is approximately 0.48 mile southwest of the proposed site. This species is usually found on flat land with mature alluvial scrub that receive infrequent overbank deposits. The alluvial habitats in the area of the proposed project lack the undisturbed soil surfaces typically associated with this species. Therefore, slender-horned spineflower has a low potential to occur in the project area. The proposed project would not result in loss of habitat for this species because no suitable habitat is found on the site.
- California orcutt grass has been found only in southern California and Baja. Vernal pools are the preferred habitat of this inconspicuous prostrate grass. Reported in the general vicinity of

Newhall, the range of occurrence for this plant is approximately 0.48 mile southwest of the proposed site. The proposed project would not result in loss of habitat for this species because no suitable habitat is found on the site.

Coastal California gnatcatcher is a permanent resident of coastal sage scrub below 2,500 ft elevation in southern California. This non-migratory songbird nests and forages in moderately dense stands of coastal sage scrub occurring on arid hillsides, mesas, and washes. Loss of suitable habitat and fragmentation of habitat from expanding development and agriculture have been a major factor in the decline of this species. The gnatcatcher may once have been in the area including the hillsides north of the site, but no longer occurs due to filling of soil and periodic mowing that occurs on the site. This gnatcatcher, most likely a displaced transient, was recorded in October 2001 in sparse coastal sage scrub approximately 0.38 mile northeast of the proposed park site. The proposed project would not result in loss of habitat for this species because no suitable habitat for this species is found on the site.

The site is generally flat and composed of fill material. Portions of the site are mowed or brush cleared on a periodic basis which reduces the growth of native plants and promotes the establishment of invasive saltcedar (*Tamarix remosissima*). Vegetation on the site includes California sagebrush (*Artemisia californica*), black sage (*Salvia mellifera*), buckwheat (*Eriogonum fasciculatum*), an annual milkvetch (*Astragalus sp.*), a wire lettuce (*Stephanomeria* sp.), giant wild rye (*Leymus condensatus*), telegraph weed (*Heterotheca grandiflora*), mulefat (*Baccharis salisifolia*), deerweed (*Lotus scoparius*), a groundsel (*Senecio* sp.), mustards (*Brassica* spp.), horehound (*Marubium vulgare*), chaparral yucca (*Yucca whipplei*), scale broom (*Lepidospartum squamatum*), tumbleweed (*Salsola tragus*), Australian saltbush (*Atriplex semibaccata*), western ragweed (*Ambrosia psilostachya*), a cudweed (*Gnaphalium sp.*), and one lone cottonwood tree (*Populus freemontii*). A small grove of Tucker's oak (*Quercus johntuckeri*) trees are located at the southwest corner of the property directly outside the work limits of the proposed park site (Figure 6).

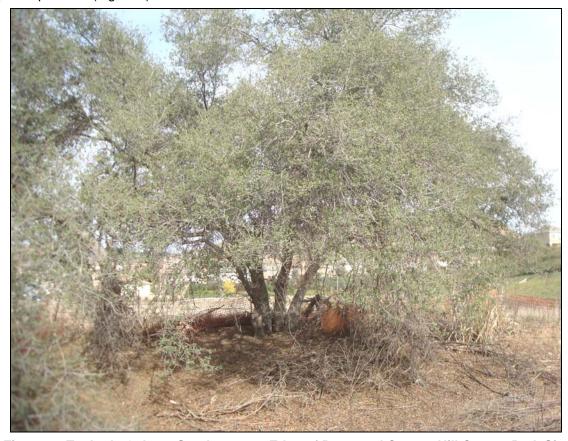


Figure 6. Tucker's Oaks at Southwestern Edge of Proposed Copper Hill County Park Site

Wildlife observed at the site included: quail (*Callipepia californica*), sharp-shinned hawk (*Accipiter striatus*), killdeer (*Charadrius vociferous*), Say's phoebe (*Sayonnis saya*), and raven (*Corvus corax*). Also observed were holes² used by gophers (*Thomomys bottae*).

In addition to wildlife observed on the site, other common species of birds and mammals would also be expected to occur, many of which utilize the hills directly south of the proposed park site. A number of packrat middens, indicative of the potential presence of wood rat (*Neotoma lepida intermedia*) were found beneath the small grove of Tucker's oaks and in the adjacent hillside. Over the past 30 years, late Quaternary environments in the arid interior of western North America have been revealed by a unique source of fossils: well-preserved fragments of plants and animals accumulated locally by packrats and quite often encased, amberlike, in large masses of crystallized urine. Packrat middens are ubiquitous in caves and rock crevices throughout the arid West, where they can lie preserved for tens of thousands of years. Many of these deposits have been dated and analyzed, and middens have supplanted pollen records as a touchstone for studying vegetation dynamics and climatic change in radiocarbon time (the last 40,000 years) (Van Devender, et al., 1990). While the presence of packrat middens can yield important knowledge on the history of an area, the nocturnal wood rat expected in the project area is generally considered a common species throughout southern California. For this reason, indirect impacts on packrat midden in the area of the Tucker's oaks at the southwestern corner of the property would not be considered significant.

Based on the above analysis, impacts to biological resources from construction and operation of the proposed project would not adversely affect listed and sensitive species. The proposed project would result in removal of an area of sparse native plant (buckwheat, black sage, California sage) growth in order to provide a turfed park surface north of the small grove of Tucker's oaks. This native plant growth represents a continuum of coastal sage scrub vegetation found immediately outside the proposed site and up the adjoining hillsides. The CDFG considers coastal sage scrub (e.g., California sagebrush – black sage scrub vegetation alliance) to be a sensitive resource that is uncommon but not rare within the state (CDFG, 2009). This ranking indicates that there may be some cause for long-term concern due to declines or other factors. To ensure protection of the native plant growth at this location, the County would ensure that the following mitigation measure is implemented:

• **Bio 1.** A native plant exclusion zone (Figure 7) will be designated on construction drawings. This zone will be flagged and restricted from access during construction activities on the site. No landscaping or other plantings will occur in the exclusion zone, with the exception of placement of large boulders or planting of native bunch grasses. No irrigation will be allowed in the native plant exclusion zone. The exclusion zone will not be fenced.

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² Long, winding tunnels are dug near the surface by gophers for the purpose of searching for food (UCCE, 2000).

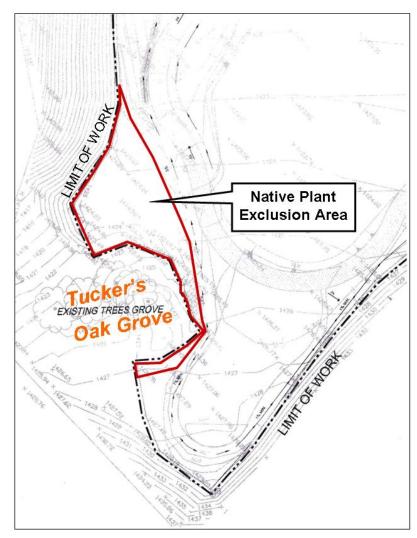


Figure 7. Native Plant Exclusion Zone at Copper Hill County Park Site

With incorporation of this mitigation measure, impacts to sensitive species of native plants would be considered less than significant.

	Potential Impacts	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
b)	Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, and regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?				Х

The project site does not contain riparian habitat. The proposed site for the public park is vacant and does not contain any watercourses. The nearest watercourse is the Santa Clara River, approximately 2.4 miles south of the project site. Therefore, the project would result in no impacts to riparian habitat or other sensitive natural communities.

Potential Impacts	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?				X

There are no federally protected wetlands on the project site or within 0.5 mile of the proposed site for the public park (Track Info Services, 2009). The proposed project would not result in physical modifications or placement of facilities in, or adjacent to, wetlands. Therefore, there would be no impact to federally protected wetlands.

d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?	X	
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The proposed construction of the public park would occur on previously disturbed ground. Although the potential exists for limited effects on native wildlife that may be present in the construction area, the proposed project would not be expected to interfere substantially with movement of wildlife because the park would provide an unfenced, open area in which wildlife can continue to move unimpeded. Therefore, impacts to wildlife movement would be considered less than significant.

	e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?		Х			
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The proposed project would not require the removal of any trees however, park construction would occur in proximity to the protected zone of native oak trees. The small grove of Tucker's oak trees at the southwest corner of the property directly adjacent to the work limits (Figure 7) of the proposed park site would not be removed. Any oak tree of the genus *Quercus* are locally recognized in Los Angeles County as significant historical, aesthetic and ecological resources. The County of Los Angeles Oak Tree Ordinance (Los Angeles County Code Title 22, Chapter 22, Part 16), prohibits destruction, removal or encroachment of any oak tree that is eight (8) inches in diameter or more, or in the case of oaks with multiple trunks combined diameter of twelve (12) inches or more of the two largest trunks, without first obtaining a permit. The combined circumferences of the two largest oak trees are 94.7 and 55.4 inches. The protected zone of the tree is 5 ft beyond the dripline (or canopy) or 15 ft from the trunks of the tree, whichever is greater.

Project plans do not include removal of any of the Tucker's oaks, but would include planting of trees within the park boundaries. In order to ensure protection of the small grove of Tucker's oaks at this location, the County would ensure that the following mitigation measures are implemented:

- Bio 2. No construction work will be allowed within the protected zone of the existing Tucker's
 oak trees at the southwestern corner of the proposed park site. The protected zone of the tree
 is 5 ft beyond the dripline (or canopy) or 15 ft from the trunks of the tree, whichever is greater.
- **Bio 3.** The slope and fill soil immediately east of the Tucker's oaks will be modified to ensure that water drains away from the trees and does not flow onto or under these trees.
- Bio 4. No irrigation or other plantings will occur within the protected zone of the Tucker's oaks.

- **Bio 5.** The protected zone of the Tucker's oaks will be flagged and restricted from access during construction activities on the site. The protected zone of the tree is 5 ft beyond the dripline (or canopy) or 15 ft from the trunks of the tree, whichever is greater.
- **Bio 6.** In order to avoid introduction of other species of native oaks into the site where they do not occur naturally, no plantings of other species of oaks will be included in park landscaping.
- **Bio 7.** Maintenance of the Tucker's oak trees will be limited to pruning of branches not to exceed two inches in diameter in accordance with guidelines published by the National Arborists Association intended to ensure the continued health of these trees.

With incorporation of these mitigation measures, the proposed project would not conflict with any policies or ordinances protecting biological resources and impacts to biological resources would be considered less than significant.

	Potential Impacts	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
f)	Conflict with the provision of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?				Х

Based on a review of planning and conservation plan documents, the proposed project is not located in the planning area of any Habitat Conservation Plan or Natural Community Conservation Plan. The project site is not located within or near any Los Angeles County Significant Ecological Area (SEA). The proposed project would not conflict with any adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan. Therefore, there will be no impact to habitat or conservation plans.

V. Cultural Resources		
Would the project:		
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in § 15064.5?		Х

Research conducted at the South Central Coastal Information Center at California State University, Fullerton indicates that the area has previously been surveyed in 13 previous studies since 1976 (SWCA, 2010a). There are seven historic resources within 1.0 mile of the proposed site for the park, none of which are located on the project site (SWCA, 2010a which is attached to this report as Appendix A). The closest historic resource to the site is the Los Angeles Aqueduct Transmission Line/Olive-Power Plant 1 - Transmission Line (built in 1917) which is less than 500 ft west of the site. Prehistoric resources (prior to A.D. 1769) include a small rock shelter, two yucca or roasting pits, while historic resources include the Los Angeles Aqueduct (built in 1913), hog farm/ranch (built prior to 1945), and the remains of a concrete floor and foundation (built prior to 1952; SWCA, 2010a). No historic-era built-environment resources were identified during a cultural resources survey of the site conducted by SWCA in January 2010. There are no properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR), California Points of Historical Interest (CPHI), California Historical Landmarks (CHL), Archaeological Determinations of Eligibility (ADOE), or the California State Historic Resources Inventory (HRI) within the boundaries of the project area (SWCA, 2010a). The proposed project would not result in any adverse change to historical resources. Therefore, no impacts to historical resources would result from the proposed project.

Potential Impacts	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to § 15064.5?		Х		

An intensive-level pedestrian cultural resources survey of the proposed site for the proposed Copper Hill County Park was conducted by an archaeologist walking parallel transects spaced 10 meters apart over the entire parcel in January 2010 (SWCA, 2010a). Within each transect, the archaeologist examined the ground surface for artifacts (e.g., flaked stone tools, tool-making debris, stone milling tools, ceramics, fire-affected rock [FAR]), soil discoloration that might indicate the presence of a cultural midden, soil depressions, and features indicative of the current or former presence of structures or buildings (e.g., standing exterior walls, postholes, foundations) or historic debris (e.g., metal, glass, ceramics). Ground disturbances such as burrows, cut banks, and drainages were visually inspected. No archaeological resources or historic-era built-environment resources were observed during the survey. A check of the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) Sacred Lands File did not identify any Native American cultural resources or sacred sites within the immediate project area, although such resources are more than 0.5 mile from the proposed project area (SWCA, 2010a). The upper two feet of sediments within the project area consist of artificial fill. No native soil is present on the site with the exception of the southwestern corner of the site that is fenced off to prevent disturbance of the Tucker's oaks. There would be a low potential for encountering subsurface archaeological materials within the top 2 feet of soil due to previous disturbances (SWCA, 2010a) such as past grading and continual mowing of the site. The project site would have a low sensitivity for encountering belowground archaeological resources (SWCA, 2010a).

Although no archaeological resources were identified within or immediately adjacent to the project area and the results of the archaeological survey were negative, the proposed project has a potential to encounter subsurface archaeological material due to the need for ground disturbance below known areas of artificial fill at depths of 2 to 5 ft (although the depth of fill varies across the site). Excavation may extend up to 3 ft below existing ground surface for parking lot construction, utility lines, and the future play areas. Excavation may extend up to 5 ft below existing ground surface for foundation work for security lighting in Phase 1 and the restroom building to be constructed in Phase 2. To avoid potential impacts to archaeological resources that may be buried beneath the project site, the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works would ensure that the following mitigation measures are implemented:

- Cultural 1. During construction, all excavation at depths greater than 2 ft below the surface will be monitored by a qualified archaeologist that meets Secretary of the Interior's standards. The monitor will attend the pre-grading meeting(s) with contractors to explain and coordinate requirements and procedures for the inadvertent discovery of cultural materials during construction.
- Cultural 2. In the event any archaeological materials or subsurface deposits are exposed during ground disturbance, the construction contractor would cease activity in the affected area (e.g., redirect activities into another area) until the discovery can be evaluated by a qualified archaeologist or historic resources specialist, as required, and appropriate treatment measures implemented. If the discovery proves to be significant pursuant to § 15064.5(c) of CEQA Guidelines, additional work such as testing or data recovery will be conducted as warranted. Methods during monitoring and/or recovery of archaeological resources shall be documented in a report of findings.

With incorporation of these mitigation measures, impacts to archaeological resources would be considered less than significant.

Potential Impacts	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
c) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site of unique geologic feature?		Х		

The project area is located within the Ventura Basin, a large east-trending sedimentary basin within the western Transverse Ranges geomorphic province. The Ventura Basin is approximately 40 miles wide and 165 miles long and includes the offshore Santa Barbara Channel. It is bounded to the north by the Santa Ynez and Topatopa Mountains, to the south by the Channel Islands and Santa Monica Mountains, and to the east by the San Gabriel Mountains. The Ventura Basin is a remnant Cretaceous forearc basin that has been filled with more than 58,000 feet of mostly marine sedimentary rocks, from Cretaceous to Recent in age (SWCA, 2010b).

According to geologic mapping, the project area is entirely underlain by the Saugus Formation of Pliocene and Pleistocene age. The Saugus Formation is a non-marine fluvial deposit consisting of conglomeratic sandstone, muddy siltstone, and conglomerate composed of detritus from source rocks such as granite, gneiss, metavolcanics, quartzite, and gabbro, within a sandy matrix. The formation has a maximum thickness of about 6,398 feet in its type area (southeast quarter of the Newhall, CA 7.5' quadrangle) and reportedly has an age range of between less than 2.5 to 0.5 - 0.2 million years ago (Ma) according to paleomagnetic data (SWCA, 2010b). The proposed site does not contain any unique geologic features.

Records from the Vertebrate Paleontology section of the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County indicate that at least five vertebrate fossil localities yielding scientifically significant vertebrate specimens have been documented within the Saugus Formation directly west of the project area. Fossil localities in the vicinity of the project site include horse, dog, lizard, pocket gopher and camel. The project area is underlain by geologic sediments of the Saugus Formation which have been determined to have a high paleontological sensitivity based on previous fossils found in this soil type (SWCA, 2010b).

A preliminary soils engineering investigation of the site found that fill soils were encountered to a depth of 2 feet and are expected to be present at greater depths at other locations on the site as well. Artificial fill is the result of human construction and is considered to have a low paleontological sensitivity because of the loss of associated sedimentological and positional data that results during the movement of the sediments. Native soils on the site generally consist of fine to coarse clayey sand with gravel (T.K. Engineering Corp., 2008). Impacts to paleontological resources are possible because excavation may extend to 5 ft below the surface, or below the fill soils, into geologic sediments that may have a high paleontological sensitivity.

Destruction of fossils as a result of human-caused ground disturbance can result in a significant cumulative impact, as it makes biological records of ancient life permanently unavailable for study by scientists. To avoid potential impacts to nonrenewable paleontological resources, the County of Los Angeles would ensure that the following mitigation measures would be implemented during construction activities:

- **Cultural 3.** All project-related ground disturbances that extend into the Saugus Formation will be monitored by a qualified paleontological monitor as this geologic unit is determined to have a high paleontological sensitivity and may possibly yield important paleontological resources.
- Cultural 4. A qualified paleontologist will be retained to supervise monitoring of construction excavations. Paleontological resource monitoring will include inspection of exposed rock units during active excavations within sensitive geologic sediments. The monitor will have authority to temporarily halt and divert grading away from exposed fossils, as necessary, in order to professionally and efficiently recover the fossil specimens and collect associated data. The qualified paleontologist will prepare monthly progress reports to be filed with the County of Los

Angeles Department of Public Works. An incident report of findings will be prepared and filed with the County within fourteen (14) calendar days of each occurrence.

- Cultural 5. In the event paleontological resources are encountered during earthwork, the
 paleontological monitor would have the authority to immediately cease activity in the affected
 area (e.g., divert grading away from exposed fossils and redirect activities into another area)
 until the resources can be evaluated, and the appropriate treatment measures implemented.
 The paleontologist would determine if the paleontological material should be salvaged,
 identified and permanently preserved.
- Cultural 6. In the event that microfossils are encountered during earthwork, sediment sampling for significant microfossils should be conducted as the Saugus Formation is known to yield very small vertebrate specimens that may only be recovered via screen washing and hand picking. The collection of additional matrix for screen-washing will be recommended at the discretion of the qualified paleontologist. Work will be supervised by the qualified paleontologist. At each fossil locality (or location), field data forms will be used to record pertinent geologic data, stratigraphic sections will be measured, and appropriate sediment samples will be collected and submitted for analysis. Recovered fossils will be prepared to the point of curation, identified by qualified experts, listed in a database to facilitate analysis, and reposited in a designated paleontological curation facility. The most likely repository is the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County. The cost of curation, maintenance, and permanent storage of fossil specimens is generally assessed by the repository.
- **Cultural 7.** The qualified paleontologist will prepare a final monitoring and mitigation report to be filed with the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works and the repository.

With incorporation of these mitigation measures, impacts to nonrenewable paleontologic resources or a site of unique geologic features would be considered less than significant.

Potential Impacts	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
d) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?		Х		

The proposed project is not expected to encounter any human remains as a result of earthmoving activities. The project area is not otherwise known to be a previous cemetery or burial site. Therefore, the probability of encountering human remains during project construction is unlikely. To avoid potential impacts to human remains that may be buried beneath the surface in the work area, the County of Los Angeles would ensure that the following mitigation measure is implemented:

• Cultural 8. In the event human remains are encountered during project construction, the Los Angeles County Coroner shall be immediately contacted to determine whether or not investigation of the cause of death is required. The Coroner shall make a determination of origin and disposition pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 5097.98. The Coroner will be notified of the find immediately. In the event the remains are Native American in origin, the Native American Heritage Commission shall be contacted to determine necessary procedures for protection and preservation of remains, including reburial, as provided in the CEQA Guidelines, Section 15064.5(e).

With incorporation of this mitigation measure, impacts to human remains would be considered less than significant.

Potential Impacts VI. Geology and Soils Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:				
i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.			Х	

A preliminary soils engineering investigation for the proposed park site was conducted in December 2007 (T.K. Engineering Corp., 2008, which is attached to this report as Appendix B). As part of this study, five test borings were drilled to depths of 5 to 10 feet below ground surface of the site. The investigation found that fill soils were encountered to a depth of 2 feet and are expected to be present at greater depths at other locations on the site as well. Native soils on the site generally consist of fine to coarse clayey sand with gravel. Groundwater was not encountered in any of the test borings (T.K. Engineering Corp., 2008).

The project site is not located within an Alquist-Priolo special studies zone (State of California Fault Rupture Hazard Zone) (City of Santa Clarita, 2010). Structures within the proposed park would be designed and constructed to resist damage from an earthquake, and would conform to the appropriate Earthquake Design Regulations of Chapter 16, Section 1613, of the California Building Code. Therefore, the potential impact from rupture of an earthquake fault is considered less than significant.

ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?			Х	
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The nearest active earthquake fault to the project site is the San Gabriel Fault Zone, located approximately three miles southwest of the site. Ground shaking from earthquakes associated with nearby and distant faults may occur during the lifetime of the project. Because earthquake-related hazards cannot be avoided in the southern California region, the project site could be subjected to strong seismic ground shaking. The proposed park would be designed and constructed to resist damage from an earthquake corresponding to a 7.0 on the Richter scale, and would conform to Seismic Zone 4 of the 2001 California Building Code. Therefore, the potential impact from strong seismic ground shaking would be considered less than significant.

iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including	X	
liquefaction?		

Liquefaction occurs when loose sand and silt that is saturated with water can behave like a liquid when shaken by an earthquake. For liquefaction to occur, there must be: (1) loose, granular sediment; (2) saturation of the sediment by ground water; and, (3) strong shaking (USGS, 2008).

Although a preliminary soils investigation conducted in 2008 did not locate groundwater within the first 10 feet below the surface (T.K. Engineering Corp., 2008), portions of the proposed site are located in liquefaction hazard area according to the City of Santa Clarita parcel information viewer (City of Santa Clarita, 2010). Locations of the proposed site within a liquefaction zone are shown on Figure 8.

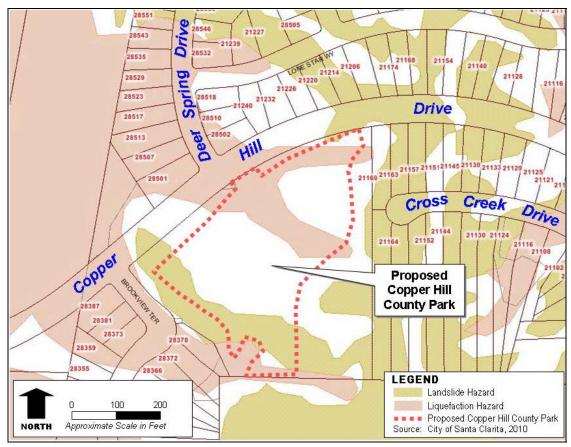


Figure 8. Liquefaction and Landslide Zones at Proposed Copper Hill County Park Site

To avoid potential hazards from liquefaction, the County will ensure that:

• Soils 1. The proposed park would be designed and constructed in accordance with geotechnical recommendations and constraints of the applicable sections of the County building code. At a minimum, the January 2008 preliminary soils investigation report recommended removal and recompaction of the first 3 feet of soils below the existing grade or one (1) foot below the bottom of footing, whichever is greater. Two feet of removal and recompaction are recommended for the parking lot, walkways and play court/basketball court areas (per the January 2008 T.K. Engineering report). However, if fill is encountered, all fill shall be removed and recompacted to a minimum of 90 percent relative compaction and 95 percent relative compaction for concrete walkways and play court/basketball court areas.

With implementation of this mitigation measure, the impact from seismic ground failure is considered to be less than significant.

Potential Impacts	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
iv) Landslides?		Х		

Portions of the project site are located in a landslide hazard zone (City of Santa Clarita, 2010) associated with the hills south of the proposed park. The landslide hazard zone extends along the west and southern perimeter of the proposed park. Based on the results of the preliminary soils engineering investigation, the proposed site will be safe from settlement, landsliding, or slippage, provided all

structure design and grading operations are conducted in accordance with recommendations and constraints of the applicable sections of the County building code (T.K. Engineering Corp., 2008).

The proposed park is not expected to result in exposure of people or structures to substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving landslides. With incorporation of the mitigation measure described in Geology and Soils, Section VI.a.)(iii), the impact from landslides would be considered less than significant.

Potential Impacts	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?		Х		

The proposed project would result in removal of topsoil from the site. To prevent or minimize the potential for erosion and loss of topsoil, the following mitigation measures will be included in plans and specifications:

- **Soils 2.** Standard erosion control measures, such as scheduling to avoid work during rainy season/monitoring of weather, use of soil binders, straw much, earth dikes and drainage swales, would be implemented during any ground disturbing activities (e.g., excavation and/or grading operations).
- **Soils 3.** Any topsoil removed from the site would be placed in the immediate area and used for re-compaction purposes.
- **Soils 4.** For excavations that occur during the rainy season (November through April), installation of berms or plastic sheeting should be utilized.
- **Soils 5.** Earthwork will be planned and conducted in such a manner as to minimize the duration of exposure of unprotected soils.
- **Soils 6.** Earthwork will be conducted using best management practices, such as single point construction entries, to minimize erosion during demolition and construction.
- Soils 7. In order to minimize soil loss, earthwork will include watering for dust control.
- **Soils 8.** Grass and other landscaping will be reestablished in the disturbed areas immediately (i.e., within one month and before the rainy season) after construction is completed, thereby reducing the potential for erosion. This measure will not apply to areas within the protected zone of the oak trees at the southwestern edge of the proposed park site where no irrigation or turf would be installed.

With incorporation of these mitigation measures, impacts from erosion and loss of topsoil would be considered less than significant.

in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?			x				
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As shown on Figure 8 and previously discussed, portions of the project site are within a liquefaction and landslide hazard area. Construction of the proposed park would include cut and fill of soil to ensure stability and integrity of the ground surface. To prevent or reduce the potential for adverse effects from unstable soil conditions, the following mitigation measure will be included in project planning:

• **Soils 9.** The proposed project would be designed and constructed in accordance with the recommendations of the project-specific geotechnical investigation including, but not limited to: review and approval of grading and foundation plans before construction; and, observation of (bottom) excavation by a soil engineer or representative before sub-grade placement of compacted fill.

With incorporation of the above mitigation measure together with Soils 1 through 8, construction of the park would not be expected to result in on- or off-site landslides, lateral spreading, subsiding or collapse. Impacts from unstable soils would be considered less than significant.

Potential Impacts	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?			Х	

Expansive soil, also called shrink-swell soil, is a very common cause of foundation problems. Depending upon moisture in the ground, shrink-swell soils will experience changes in volume of up to thirty percent or more. Foundation soils which are expansive can cause lifting of a building or other structure during periods of high moisture. Conversely during periods of falling soil moisture, expansive soil will collapse and can result in building settlement. Expansive soil will also exert pressure on the vertical face of a foundation, basement or retaining wall resulting in lateral movement. Shrink-swell soils which have expanded due to high ground moisture experience a loss of soil strength or "capacity" and the resulting instability can result in various forms of foundation problems and slope failure. The American Society of Testing Materials has published an expansion index (ASTM D 4829) to quantify the results (FRG, 2010). The expansion index range and classification of potential soil expansion is shown on Table 7.

Table 7. Classification of Potential Expansion of Soils Using the Expansion Index

Expansion Index	Potential Soil Expansion		
0–20	Very Low		
21–50	Low		
51–90	Medium		
91–130	High		
>130	Very High		

Source: ASTM, 2010

Soils on the proposed site have an expansion index of 27 which corresponds to a low expansion potential (T.K. Engineering Corp., 2008). Therefore, impacts from expansive soils would be considered less than significant.

disposal of wastewater?	e)	Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?				х	
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The proposed park would be serviced by the Santa Clarita Valley Sanitation District. The proposed project would not include any requirement for use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems. Phase 1 of the proposed Copper Hill County Park would not include any restrooms. Phase 2 of the project would include a restroom building (with a water fountain on its exterior) with connection to the sewer main located along Copper Hill Drive. Therefore, impacts to soils from the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems would not occur as a result of the proposed project.

VII. Greenhouse Gases

On December 30, 2009, the State of California Natural Resources Agency adopted amendments to Section 15064.4 of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines that require the evaluation of greenhouse gases and a determination of significance of impacts. This evaluation is included to describe, calculate or estimate the amount of greenhouse gas emissions associated with the proposed construction and operation of the proposed Copper Hill County Park in Santa Clarita (unincorporated Los Angeles County).

Background

Global climate change is caused by the addition of massive quantities of greenhouse gas emissions to the atmosphere due primarily to human activities in the last 150 years from all over the world. It has been estimated that 29 billion metric tons of CO₂ were added to the Earth's atmosphere in the year 2006. Assembly Bill 32 established the goal of limiting the State of California's greenhouse gas emissions to 1990 levels by the year 2020. The California Air Resources Board has determined that level to be 427 million metric tons per year.

In response to the growing concern about greenhouse gas emissions and recognition of their significant adverse impacts on climate and the environment, and the passage of the Global Warming Act of 2006 (Assembly Bill 32), this project is being evaluated for its impacts (including cumulative impacts) to the environment from greenhouse gas emissions. CEQA requires public agencies to refrain from approving projects with significant adverse environmental impacts if there are feasible alternatives or mitigation measures that can substantially reduce or avoid those impacts.

Greenhouse gases (GHG) are gases that trap heat in the atmosphere; GHG are emitted by natural processes and human activities. Emissions from human activities such as electricity production and internal combustion vehicle use have elevated the concentration of these gases in the atmosphere. It is estimated that approximately 40 percent of GHG in the State of California are produced by passenger vehicles and light-duty trucks. GHG generated by human activities include carbon dioxide (CO_2), methane (CH_4), nitrous oxide (N_2O), chlorofluorocarbons (CFC), hydrofluorocarbons (CFC), perfluorocarbons (CFC), sulfur hexafluoride (CFC), and ozone (CFC). Table 8 provides a summary of greenhouse gases.

Table 8. Greenhouse Gases in the Atmosphere

Gas	Description	Source(s)
Water Vapor	Of all greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, water vapor is the most abundant, important, and variable. It is not considered a pollutant; in the atmosphere, it maintains a climate necessary for life.	The main source of water vapor is evaporation from the oceans (approximately 85 percent). Other sources include evaporation from other water bodies, sublimation (change from solid to gas) from ice and snow, and transpiration from plant leaves.
Ozone	Ozone is a gas that occurs both in the Earth's upper atmosphere and at ground level. Ozone can be "good" or "bad" for people's health and for the environment, depending on its location in the atmosphere. Unlike other GHG, ozone in the troposphere is relatively short-lived and, therefore, is not global in nature.	Ozone is not usually emitted directly into the air, but at ground-level is created by a chemical reaction between oxides of nitrogen and volatile organic compounds in the presence of sunlight. It is difficult to make an accurate determination of the contribution of ozone precursors (nitrogen oxides and volatile organic compounds) to global climate change.
Aerosols	Aerosols can warm the atmosphere by absorbing and emitting heat and can cool the atmosphere by reflecting light. Cloud formation can also be affected by aerosols.	Aerosols are suspensions of particulate matter in a gas emitted into the air through burning biomass (plant material) and fossil fuels. Sulfate aerosols are emitted when fuel containing sulfur is burned. Black carbon (or soot) is emitted during biomass burning or incomplete combustion of fossil fuels.

Table 8. Greenhouse Gases in the Atmosphere (Cont'd)

Gas	Description	Source(s)
Carbon Dioxide (CO ₂)	An odorless, colorless gas.	CO₂ has both natural and anthropogenic sources. Natural sources include: decomposition of dead organic matter; respiration of bacteria, plants, animals, and fungus; evaporation from oceans; and, volcanic outgassing. Anthropogenic sources of carbon dioxide are from burning coal, oil, natural gas, and wood.
Methane	Methane is a flammable gas and is the main component of natural gas. When one molecule of methane is burned in the presence of oxygen, one molecule of carbon dioxide and two molecules of water are released. There are no ill health effects from methane.	A natural source of methane is from the anaerobic decay of organic matter. Geological deposits, known as natural gas fields, also contain methane, which is extracted for fuel. Other sources are from landfills, fermentation of manure, and cattle.
Nitrous Oxide (N₂O)	Also known as laughing gas, N ₂ O is a colorless greenhouse gas. Higher concentrations can cause dizziness, euphoria, and sometimes slight hallucinations.	Nitrous oxide is produced by microbial processes in soil and water, including those reactions that occur in fertilizer containing nitrogen. In addition to agricultural sources, some industrial processes (fossil fuel-fired power plants, nylon production, nitric acid production, and vehicle emissions) also contribute to its atmospheric load. It is used in rocket engines, racecars, and as an aerosol spray propellant.
Chlorofluorocarbons (CFC)	CFC are formed synthetically by replacing all hydrogen atoms in methane or ethane with chlorine and/or fluorine atoms. CFCs are nontoxic, nonflammable, insoluble, and chemically unreactive in the troposphere (the level of air at the earth's surface).	CFC were first synthesized in 1928 for use as refrigerants, aerosol propellants, and cleaning solvents. They destroy stratospheric ozone; therefore, their production was stopped as required by the Montreal Protocol in 1987.
Hydrofluorocarbons (HFC)	HFCs are synthetic man-made chemicals that are used as a substitute for CFCs.	Automobile air conditioners and refrigerants.
Perfluorocarbons (PFC)	PFC have stable molecular structures and do not break down though the chemical processes in the lower atmosphere. Highenergy ultraviolet rays about 60 kilometers above the earth's surface are able to destroy the compounds. PFCs have very long lifetimes, between 10,000 and 50,000 years. Two common PFCs are tetrafluoromethane and hexafluoroethane.	Primary aluminum production and semiconductor manufacture.
Sulfur Hexafluoride (SF6)	An inorganic, odorless, colorless, nontoxic, nonflammable gas with the highest global warming potential of any gas evaluated.	Used for insulation in electric power transmission and distribution equipment, in the magnesium industry, in semiconductor manufacturing, and as a tracer gas for leak detection.

Source: Hendrix and Wilson, 2007

Greenhouse gas emissions are primarily related to fossil fuel combustion for energy use. These are driven largely by economic growth and fuel used for power generation, transportation, heating, and cooling. Greenhouse gas emissions come from a variety of sources including carbon dioxide emissions from the combustion of fossil fuels (i.e., automobile driving, electricity production, and industrial sources). Transportation (37%) and electricity production (25% - both in-state and imported) combined make up nearly two-thirds of greenhouse gas emissions in the state (ARB, 2010).

GHGs have varying global warming potentials (GWP). The GWP is the potential of a gas to trap heat in the atmosphere. The reference gas for GWP is CO_2 , which has a GWP of one. Methane has a GWP of 21, which means that it has a 21-times greater global warming effect than CO_2 on a mass basis. N_2O has a GWP of 310. The GWP of greenhouse gases are shown on Table 9.

Table 9. Global Warming Potential of Greenhouse Gases

Gas	Atmospheric Lifetime (yrs)	Global Warming Potential (100 year time horizon)
Carbon Dioxide	50 to 200	1
Methane	9 to 15	21
Nitrous Oxide	120	310
HFC-23	264	11,700
HFC-134a	14.6	1,300
HFC-152a	1.5	140
PFC: Tetrafluoromethane (CF ₄)	50,000	6,500
PFC: Hexafluoromethane (C ₂ F ₆)	10,000	9,200
Sulfur Hexafluoride (SF ₆)	3,200	23,900

Source: Hendrix, 2008 HFC = hydroflurorocarbons PFC = perflurorocarbons

Regulatory Framework

Although the Supreme Court had determined that GHG are pollutants that can be regulated under the Clean Air Act, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is in the process of evaluating comments from other federal agencies on the full range of issues raised. California has passed laws directing the Air Resources Board (ARB) to develop actions to reduce GHG emissions.

Assembly Bill 1493 - Vehicular Emissions of Greenhouse Gases. In 2002, with the passage of AB 1493 (Pavely), California launched an innovative and proactive approach for managing GHG emissions and climate change at the state level. AB 1493 required ARB to develop and implement regulations to reduce GHG emitted by passenger vehicles and light duty trucks; these regulations would apply to 2009 and later model year vehicles.

Executive Order S-20-04 - California Green Building Initiative. E.O. S-20-04 signed by the Governor of California on December 14, 2004 calls for public buildings to be 20 percent more energy efficient by 2015 and encourages the private sector to do the same. The State of California Green Building Order directs that future construction and renovation projects larger than 10,000 square feet meet Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED®)-New Construction Silver criteria in order to assure their energy and environmental performance. The same criteria are to be met for buildings smaller than 10,000 square feet, but certification is not required. The California Building Standards Commission has developed green building standards to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from structures. The code includes mandatory features with a delayed effective date for housing, and voluntary standards for hospitals and other non-residential occupancies. California green building standards were adopted by the California Building Standards Commission on July 17, 2008, as amended, for publication in the 2007 California Green Building Standards Code, CCR, Title 24, Part 11 (State of California, 2009).

Assembly Bill 32 - California Global Warming Solution Act of 2006. On June 1, 2005, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger signed Executive Order S-3-05. The goal of this Executive Order is to reduce California's GHG emissions to: (1) 2000 levels by 2010; (2) 1990 levels by 2020; and, (3) 80 percent below the 1990 levels by 2050. In 2006, this goal was further reinforced with the passage of AB 32, the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006. AB 32 sets the same overall GHG emissions reduction goals while further mandating that ARB create a plan, which includes market mechanisms, and implement rules to achieve "real, quantifiable, cost-effective reductions of GHG." On December 11, 2008 the ARB approved a scoping plan for reducing California's GHG emissions.

Executive Order S-01-07. E.O. S-01-07 was enacted by Governor Schwarzenegger on January 18, 2007. The order: 1) establishes a statewide goal to reduce the carbon intensity of California's transportation fuels by at least 10 percent by 2020; and, 2) establishes a Low Carbon Fuel Standard for transportation fuels for California.

Senate Bill 97. Senate Bill 97, enacted in 2007, amends the CEQA statute to clearly establish that GHG emissions and the effects of GHG emissions are appropriate subjects for CEQA analysis. It directs the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) to develop draft CEQA Guidelines "for the mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions or the effects of greenhouse gas emissions" by July 1, 2009 and directs the Resources Agency to certify and adopt the CEQA Guidelines by January 1, 2010. These amendments to CEQA Guidelines were adopted on December 30, 2009.

California Climate Action Registry. Established by the California Legislature in 2000, the California Climate Action Registry (CCAR) is a nonprofit public-private partnership that maintains a voluntary registry for GHG emissions. The purpose of the Registry is to help companies, organizations, and local agencies establish GHG emissions baselines for purposes of complying with future GHG emission reduction requirements. It provides leadership on climate change by developing and promoting credible, accurate, and consistent GHG reporting standards and tools for organizations to measure, monitor, verify and reduce their GHG emissions consistently across industry sectors and geographical borders.

AB 32 requires the ARB to incorporate the standards and protocols developed by CCAR into the state's future GHG emissions reporting program, to the maximum extent feasible. The current GHG emission calculation methods used by CCAR are contained in California Climate Action Registry - General Reporting Protocol (CCAR Protocol – V2.2). This protocol categorizes GHG emission sources as: (1) direct (vehicles, onsite combustion, fugitive, and process emissions); and, (2) indirect (from offsite electricity, steam, and co-generation).

Western Regional Climate Action Initiative. In 2007, the states of California, Arizona, New Mexico, Oregon, Washington, Utah, and Montana, and Canadian provinces of British Colombia, Manitoba, Ontario and Quebec signed the Western Regional Climate Action Initiative. This initiative is a collaboration of seven U.S. governors and four Canadian Premiers and was created to identify, evaluate, and implement collective and cooperative ways to reduce greenhouse gases in the region, focusing on a market-based cap-and-trade system. In addition, a multi-state registry will track, manage, and credit entities that reduce GHG emissions. The initiative has set a goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 15 percent from 2005 levels by the year 2020 (WCI, 2009).

Los Angeles County Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Plan. In anticipation of future regulatory measures, the draft Los Angeles County General Plan (County of Los Angeles, 2008) may result in implementation of a number of policies related to greenhouse gas emissions and global warming, as demonstrated in its draft goals and policies. In addition, the County understands that global warming is not just about mitigation, but also adaptation. The County has already initiated several programs specifically designed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. As these programs are further developed, the County will continue to participate in providing both regulatory and market strategies to meet the objectives established in the AB 32 law.

Los Angeles County Energy and Environmental Policy. In addition to the current State regulations developed to reduce air pollution and global climate change, the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors adopted on January 16, 2007 a comprehensive, County-wide Energy and Environmental Policy (Policy No. 3.045) which became effective on December 19, 2006. This policy provides guidelines for the development, implementation and enhancement of energy conservation and environmental programs within County departments.

The policy mandates that all County departments implement the County Energy and Environmental programs for development of innovative energy technologies and programs to achieve environmental stewardship throughout the County. This policy also establishes a multi-departmental Energy and Environmental Team to coordinate these efforts, develop goals and objectives, and monitor and provide periodic reports to the Board of Supervisors on the status of the program. Through this program, the County expects to achieve a 20 percent reduction of energy consumption by the year 2015, consistent with the Governor's Green Building Initiative, Executive Order (S-20-04). The current policy includes four elements and includes initiatives that include specific methods to reach these goals:

(1) Energy and Water Efficiency Program

- Implementing and monitoring energy and water conservation practices
- Implementing energy and water efficiency projects
- Enhancing employee energy and water conservation awareness through education and promotions

(2) Environmental Stewardship Program

- Environmentally Responsible Purchasing Standards
- Recycling Programs
- Environmentally Friendly Products
- Support environmental initiatives by researching existing County operations

(3) Public Outreach and Education Program

Utilizing public outreach and education channels to share utility industry information, facilitate implementation of assistance programs, and spread information and education on energy conservation practices through the region. Through coordination with regional utility companies, this program will provide County residents with energy related information including, energy and water conservation practices, utility rates and changes, rotating power outage information, emergency power outage information, and energy efficiency incentives.

(4) Sustainable Design Program

The Sustainable Design Program is intended to optimize the performance and useful life of County buildings through the integration of green features into the design of new and renovated County facilities. Building sustainability will be enhanced through the integration of green, sustainable principles into the planning, design and construction of County capital projects which:

- Complement the functional objectives of the project;
- Extend the functional life cycle/useful life of buildings and sites;
- Optimize energy and water use efficiency;
- Improve indoor air quality and provide healthy work environments;
- Reduce ongoing building maintenance requirements;
- Encourage use and reuse of environmentally friendly materials and resources;
- Establish a management approach that instills and reinforces the integration of sustainable design principles into the core competency skill set of the County's planners, architects, engineers, and project managers; and,
- Establish practical performance measures to determine the level of sustainability achieved relative to the objectives targeted for the individual project and overall capital program.

Additional methods of integrating sustainable design features into each County capital improvement project that is 10,000 sq ft or greater in size will be based on the following criteria:

- Consistency with project objectives
- Design innovation
- Potential environmental benefit
- Development and implementation costs
- Potential economic benefit/cost avoidance
- Available funding

Since adoption of the Countywide Energy and Environmental Policy in 2007, the County has achieved several goals necessary to meet compliance with the Policy. In order to meet the goal of reducing energy consumption by 20 percent in County facilities by the year 2015, the County has already begun to implement energy efficient projects, such as replacing inefficient building lighting systems and air conditioning equipment. Thus, annual electrical energy consumption in County facilities was reduced by 0.8 percent in 2007 and 1.5 percent in 2008; annual gas consumption was reduced by 1.9 percent in 2007 and 2.1 percent in 2008 (County of Los Angeles, 2009).

Significance Criteria for Greenhouse Gases

CEQA requires that lead agencies inform decision-makers and the public about potentially significant environmental impacts of proposed projects. While linking the projected greenhouse gas emissions of a project to a direct influence on climate change would be considered only speculative at this time, conclusions of significance must be based on scientific and factual data. Climate change, as it relates to man-made greenhouse gas emissions, is by nature a global and cumulative impact. According to the Association of Environmental Professionals (AEP), in its paper titled Alternative Approaches to Analyzing Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Global Climate Change in CEQA Documents (Hendrix and Wilson, 2007), "an individual project does not generate enough greenhouse gas emissions to significantly influence global climate change. Global climate change is a cumulative impact; a project participates in this potential impact through its incremental contribution combined with the cumulative increase of all other sources of greenhouse gases."

Significance criteria for evaluating the impact of greenhouse gases have not been established at this time. CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.4 allows the Lead Agency to have discretion to determine, in the context of a particular project, whether to use a model or methodology to quantify greenhouse gas emissions resulting from a project or to rely on a qualitative analysis or performance based standards. When assessing the significance of impacts from greenhouse gas emissions on the environment, the Lead Agency should consider: (a) the extent to which the project may increase or reduce greenhouse gas emissions as compared to the environmental setting; (b) whether the project emissions exceeds a threshold of significance that the Lead Agency determines applies to the project; and, (c) the extent to which the project complies with regulations and requirements adopted to implement a statewide, regional or local plan for reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.

Significance criteria for evaluating the impact of greenhouse gases have been proposed as follows:

- The California Air Resources Board (ARB) has proposed a significance threshold of 7,000 metric tons of CO₂ equivalents per year for new industrial projects (excluding transportation) (ARB, 2008b).
- The SCAQMD has proposed a screening level of 3,000 metric tons of CO₂ per year for commercial or residential projects, under which project impacts are considered less than significant. This screening level was developed to achieve the policy objective of capturing 90 percent of greenhouse gas emissions from new development projects in the residential/commercial sector.
- The California Air Pollution Control Officers Association (CAPCOA) has identified two potential quantitative criteria for determining significance of GHG emissions from a project: (1) a 900 metric ton annual threshold that corresponds to office projects of approximately 35,000 sq ft; and, (2) a 25,000 ton threshold applicable to emissions from approximately 1,400 residential units.
- At this time, one agency has adopted a significance criterion for operational emissions of greenhouse gases. On June 10, 2010, the Bay Area Air Quality Management District adopted an operational threshold of 10,000 metric tons of CO₂ per year for stationary sources.

None of the above proposed threshold would be considered binding on Los Angeles County projects.

At this time, two agencies have adopted a significance criterion for operational emissions of greenhouse gases:

- On June 10, 2010, the Bay Area Air Quality Management District adopted an operational threshold of 10,000 metric tons of CO₂ per year for stationary sources.
- In December 2009, the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District adopted: Guidance for Valley Land-use Agencies in Addressing GHG Emission Impacts for New Projects under CEQA and the policy: District Policy Addressing GHG Emission Impacts for Stationary Source Projects Under CEQA When Serving as the Lead Agency. This guidance and policy rely on the use of performance based standards, otherwise known as Best Performance Standards (BPS) to assess significance of project specific greenhouse gas emissions on global climate change during the environmental review process, as required by CEQA. Use of BPS is a method of streamlining the CEQA process of determining significance and is not a required emission reduction measure. Projects implementing BPS would be determined to have a less than cumulatively significant impact. Otherwise, demonstration of a 29 percent reduction in GHG emissions, from business-as-usual, is required to determine that a project would have a less than cumulatively significant impact. The guidance does not limit a lead agency's authority in establishing its own process and guidance for determining significance of project related impacts on global climate change (SJVAPCD, 2009).

Although the above criteria are intended to assess significance of project specific greenhouse gas emissions on global climate change during the environmental review process as required by CEQA, neither of the above significance criteria have been selected for the proposed project because of their jurisdiction.

The County of Los Angeles has not adopted significance thresholds for greenhouse gases. In lieu of applicable significance criteria, the County will evaluate the proposed project against the CAPCOA threshold of 900 metric tons per year of carbon dioxide equivalent for office buildings. Although not directly applicable to the proposed park, this threshold is the most stringent of available thresholds proposed by agencies with jurisdiction over the proposed project at this time (and no thresholds have been adopted by agencies with jurisdiction over the proposed project). In addition, the County will also consider the extent to which the project may increase or reduce greenhouse gas emissions as compared to the environmental setting, and, the extent to which the project complies with regulations and requirements adopted to implement a statewide, regional or local plan for reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.

Potential Impacts	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?			Х	

Greenhouse gases are calculated in emissions of three pollutants: carbon monoxide (CO_2) ; methane (CH_4) ; and, nitrous oxides (N_2O) . Because other greenhouse gases represent a small fraction of emissions, a carbon dioxide equivalent (CO_2e) of the combined emissions of all greenhouse gases is computed to indicate the anticipated amount of greenhouse gases from an activity.

The proposed park will result in direct emissions of greenhouse gases during construction and operation. The proposed project will result in the generation of short term emissions of greenhouse gases during construction of the new park, parking lot, walkways, restroom building, play areas, gazebo, and utility tieins at the site. Emissions would be generated by workers and heavy equipment during the Phase 1 and Phase 2 construction period. Project-related emissions for construction and operation of the proposed park were calculated using the URBEMIS air pollutant modeling program as shown in Tables 3 and 4. The URBEMIS model also calculates the amount of construction-related CO₂ in pounds per day as shown in Table 10.

Table 10. Estimated Carbon Dioxide Emissions from Construction of the Proposed Project

Phase	Construction Phase	CO ₂ Emissions (lb per day) ¹
1	Demolition/Site Preparation	531.33
	Mass Grading ²	969.64
	Fine Grading	1,925.96
	Asphalt/Concrete Paving	521.08
2	Site Preparation/Fine Grading	1,348.19
	Asphalt/Concrete Paving	901.58
	Building Construction (Restroom and Gazebo)	1,530.90
	Architectural Coatings (Painting and Other Surface Treatments)	2.13

Notes: 1 Values shown include worker vehicle and truck emissions generated during each construction phase.

Source: URBEMIS model output for construction of a 4-acre park.

 CO_2 = carbon dioxide

Construction-related CO_2 in pounds per day are converted into metric tons per day by applying the conversion factor of 2,204.6 pounds per metric ton to derive the number of metric tons of CO_2 generated per day. For example, the Phase 1 demolition and site preparation activities which generate 531.33 pounds of CO_2 per day:

531.33 pounds per day ÷ 2,204.6 pounds per metric ton = 0.24 metric tons of CO₂ per day

The number of construction work days per year was derived based on an estimated number of work days for the specific phase of construction. Demolition/site preparation is estimated to occur five (5) days per week for four (4) weeks. This equates to a total of 20 work days of demolition/site preparation.

0.24 metric tons per day x 20 work days = 4.82 metric tons of CO₂ per year

Methane and nitrous oxide emissions that would be generated during construction were estimated by applying emission factors as set forth by the Air Resources Board of the California Environmental Protection Agency (ARB, 2008a).

The combined emissions of various GHG from the project are presented as a CO₂ equivalent (CO₂e). The total CO₂e is calculated by multiplying the amount of each GHG emitted from the project by its GWP (shown on Table 9), and adding each gas value to derive a total. Construction emissions of greenhouse gases expected during each phase and an annual maximum are provided in Table 11.

Construction-related impacts to global climate change would result from construction equipment and on-road vehicles used for demolition/site preparation, grading of the vacant lot, construction of walkways and play areas, gazebo and restroom building construction, paving and architectural coatings during both construction phases of the park. Emissions of CO₂ during construction were estimated with the URBEMIS 2007 model (version 9.2.4). Estimated construction-related greenhouse gas emissions from the proposed project would be approximately 32 and 83 metric tons per year for Phases 1 and 2, respectively. The total project emissions would be 115.06 metric tons.

Operation of the proposed project will result in air pollutant emissions from vehicular traffic by visitors traveling to and from the park (estimated at 107 vehicles per day), as well as travel by maintenance workers (estimated at 5 vehicles per day). Long-term operational sources of greenhouse gas emissions would be generated by vehicles driven by park visitors and the energy use associated with operation of the park. Greenhouse gas emissions from vehicles would result from combustion of gasoline or diesel fuel in the vehicles. Emissions of CO₂ from vehicles were estimated in the URBEMIS 2007 computer program. Greenhouse gas emissions from annual operations are summarized on Table 12.

Mass grading refers to large scale grading over the entire site which would be required even though the site has formerly been rough graded.

Table 11. Estimated Construction-Related Greenhouse Gas Emissions from the Proposed Project

	Duration			Emissions (Metric Tons Per Year) ¹			
Phase	of Phase	Construction Phase	CO ₂	CH₄	N ₂ O	CO ₂ e	
1	6	Demolition/Site Preparation	4.82	0.00172	0.00172	5.39	
	months	Mass Grading ²	7.40	0.00145	0.00145	7.88	
		Fine Grading	12.14	0.00237	0.00237	12.92	
		Asphalt/Concrete Paving	5.70	0.00139	0.00139	6.16	
				Phase 1 Total			
2	8	Site Preparation/Fine Grading	24.46	0.00507	0.00507	26.14	
	months	Asphalt/Concrete Paving	9.81	0.00225	0.00225	10.56	
		Building Construction	44.44	0.00470	0.00470	46.00	
		Architectural Coatings (Painting and Other Surface Treatments)	0.00	0.00000	0.00000	0.00	
				Ph	ase 2 Total	82.70	
				Project Total (n	netric tons) ³	115.06	

Note: 1 Values shown include worker vehicle and truck emissions generated during each construction phase.

The CO₂-equivalent emission of each GHG is the emission rate multiplied by its corresponding global warming potential (GWP). One metric ton equals 2,204.6 lbs

 CO_2 = carbon dioxide CH_4 = methane

 N_2O = nitrous oxides CO₂e = carbon dioxide equivalent of combined emissions of all GHG

Table 12. Estimated Operational Greenhouse Gas Emissions from the Proposed Project

Source	CO₂e Emissions (Metric Tons Per Year)¹
Phase 1 Park with Parking Lot, Turf Areas, Walkways and Lighting	108.66
Phase 2 Park with Restroom Building, Gazebo and Play Court/Basketball Court	166.63

Note: 1 Values shown include visitors and maintenance vehicle emissions generated during each operational phase.

Long term operation of the park would include security lighting composed of 15 light standards for Phase 1 and building lighting for Phase 2. For purposes of greenhouse gas emissions, the indirect emissions from electricity consumption from operation of lighting at the 4.05-acre park are estimated to be approximately 24 MWhr per year (or approximately 10 metric tons of CO₂e per year). This would represent approximately 1.38 percent of total (construction and operational) greenhouse gas emissions from the project. The electricity consumption from operation of lighting would be reduced with the use of energy efficient compact fluorescent and/or solar powered fixtures. In accordance with CCAR reporting protocol (2009), these emissions may be considered de minimis because they represent less than 5 percent of the total emissions. As shown on Table 12, operation-related greenhouse gas emissions were calculated to be 108.66 and 166.63 metric tons per year for Phases 1 and 2 of the park, respectively.

When construction and operational emissions from the project, as shown on Tables 11 and 12, respectively) are compared to the proposed CAPCOA threshold of 900 tons per year of CO₂e, these values are considerably below the criterion. Project emissions of greenhouse gases are also below the Bay Area Air Quality Management District's operational threshold of 10,000 metric tons of CO₂ per year for stationary sources, although this threshold was not selected for this project. For this reason, direct and indirect impacts of greenhouse gas emissions from construction and operation of the proposed project are considered to be less than significant.

A total of 14 months is required for construction of Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the park. The maximum emissions of greenhouse gases in a calendar year from construction (for either phase) would be 82.70

Mass grading refers to large scale grading over the entire site which would be required even though the site has formerly been rough graded.

Project total would be 115.06 metric tons since construction would only occur over an estimated 14 months.

metric tons. In the event that construction and operation were to occur in the same calendar year, it would be necessary to add the construction-related greenhouse gas emissions to the partial year operation-related greenhouse gas emissions to determine the total greenhouse gas emissions for that year. Based on 8 months of construction and 4 months of operation, the maximum emissions of greenhouse gases would be 138.24 metric tons. These emissions are considerably below the the proposed CAPCOA threshold of 900 tons per year of CO_2e .

The highest annual amount of greenhouse gas emissions calculated for the proposed project (166.63 metric tons per year) would represent 0.0000006 percent of year 2002 global emissions and 0.000039 percent of the targeted California emissions per AB 32. The project would incorporate low energy light fixtures and support the use of alternative transportation by providing bicycle racks. When this individual project's contribution to greenhouse gas emissions is compared to that produced by activities elsewhere in the world, the mass of greenhouse gas emissions generated by the construction and operation of an individual project such as the proposed project would be so small that the concentration of greenhouse gas emissions in the atmosphere would not change. For this reason, the project's individual impact to global climate change is considered less than significant.

The contribution of the proposed project to greenhouse gases would not exceed the proposed CAPCOA threshold of 900 metric tons per year nor the proposed SCAQMD screening level of 3,000 metric tons per year. The proposed park would comply with the County's Energy and Environmental Policy. This project's individual impact to global climate change is considered less than significant. Therefore, direct and indirect impacts of greenhouse gas emissions from construction and operation of the proposed project are considered to be less than significant.

Global warming poses a serious threat to the economic well-being, public health, natural resources, and the environment of California. The potential adverse impacts of global warming include the exacerbation of air quality problems, wildfires, a reduction in the quality and supply of water to the state from the Sierra snowpack, a rise in sea levels resulting in the displacement of thousands of coastal businesses and residences, damage to marine ecosystems and the natural environment, and an increase in the incidences of infectious diseases, asthma, and other human health-related problems (OPR, 2008). While it is difficult to predict the precise effects or timing of such effects, adverse impacts associated with global climate change could have a common and widespread impact on communities including Santa Clarita and the proposed neighborhood park.

Potential Impacts	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
b) Conflict with any applicable plan, policy or regulation of an agency adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?			Х	

In accordance with the County of Los Angeles Energy and Environmental Policy, the proposed project will be designed to incorporate sustainable energy efficient features for sustainable site development, water savings, energy efficiency, and materials and resources selection and be consistent the overall greenhouse gas emissions reductions set forth in Assembly Bill 32. With incorporation of energy efficiency features, carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions from the park would be reduced. The project will not conflict with the County of Los Angeles Energy and Environmental Policy which serves as the basis for efforts to coordinate energy efficiency, conservation, and sustainability programs within the County and the region. Therefore, impacts from greenhouse gases will be less than significant.

Potential Impacts	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
VIII. Hazards and Hazardous Materials Would the project:				
a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?			Х	

The proposed project would not involve any routine transport, use or disposal of hazardous materials. Project-related construction would entail the use of small quantities of hazardous materials such as diesel fuel, paints and solvents. Transport of these materials is regulated by the State and transport to the site would comply with these regulations. Best management practices would be used during construction to prevent and control spills and leaks of these substances. No use or disposal of hazardous materials would occur during Phase 1 operations. The use and disposal of hazardous materials at the Phase 2 park would involve use of commercial solvents and cleaners for normal maintenance of the restroom building, gazebo and play areas. During park operations, cleaning products and solvents would either be stored offsite (and transported to the site) or stored in a secure closet to be located in the restroom building. Park operations and maintenance activities would not create a significant hazard to the public. Therefore, the impact of the proposed project from hazardous materials would be considered less than significant.

	b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?	Х	
١	into the environment?		

The operation of Phase 1 of the proposed park would not involve the use, transport or storage of hazardous materials. Phase 2 would involve routine use of household cleaning materials including solvents; however, the potential for an unforeseen upset or accident involving hazardous materials would be minimal and the impact from release of hazardous materials into the environment would be considered less than significant. Therefore, hazards to the public from the release of hazardous materials into the environment would be considered less than significant.

c)	Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials,		Х	
	substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?			

There are no schools within 0.25 mile of the project site. No schools are planned within one-quarter mile of the site at this time. The nearest school is Bouquet Canyon Elementary School approximately 0.6 mile south of the site. There are no schools planned to be opened in this area of Santa Clarita within the next year. The proposed project would not use or store hazardous substances in quantities that could result in a significant hazard to the public. Chemicals that would be stored at the site would be limited to cleaners and bleach stored in the restroom building as part of Phase 2. Therefore, an accidental explosion or release of toxic or hazardous substances at the park would not be expected to occur near an existing or proposed school. Therefore, the impact from hazardous emissions from the proposed project would be considered less than significant.

Potential Impacts	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?			x	

A search of available environmental records (including the California Department of Toxic Substances Control [DTSC] Envirostor database) was conducted on January 19, 2010 to identify properties that have had known releases of regulated substances, or which have had histories involving the use, storage, treatment, generation, disposal, or handling of hazardous substances. The site is not located on, or within a mile of, a listed hazardous materials or hazardous waste site per Government Code Section 65962.5 nor are there any active cleanup sites reported within 0.5 mile.

The proposed project would not be located on a known hazardous waste site nor would it be expected to be affected by known contaminated sites in the immediate area. Therefore, impacts from hazardous materials and wastes would be considered less than significant.

e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?		X
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There are no airports located within two miles of the proposed project. The closest public airport is Agua Dulce Airport located approximately 11 miles east of the site. The proposed project area is not within the planning boundary or airport influence area of Agua Dulce Airport (ALUC, 2004). The proposed project would not result in any safety hazard for aircraft or interfere with operations or plans relating to this public airport. Therefore, the project would have no impact on safety in the area.

f)	For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?				Х
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The proposed project is not within the vicinity of a private airstrip. The closest private airstrip to the site is the Castaic Dam Heliport approximately 4.2 miles southwest of the site. Other private use airports in the project area are shown on Table 13.

Table 13. Private Airports in the Vicinity of the Proposed Copper Hill County Park

No.	Name of Private Airstrip	Location	Distance from Site
1	Castaic Dam Heliport	Castaic	4.2 miles southwest
2	Sheriff's Wayside Heliport	Valencia	4.7 miles southwest
3	SCE Pardee Heliport	Newhall	5.3 miles southwest
4	Sheriff's Station Heliport	Valencia	5.5 miles west
5	Henry Mayo Newhall Memorial Hospital Heliport	Valencia	6.1 miles northwest
6	Camp 14 Heliport	Saugus	7.0 miles north
7	Los Angeles County Fire Station No. 123 Heliport	Newhall	7.8 miles southeast

Source: www.airport-data.com/airport/WHP/nearby-airports.html

There would be no safety hazard or impacts to people working or residing in the project area. Therefore, the project would have no impact on safety in the area.

Potential Impacts	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
g) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?			Х	

The proposed project would not result in any interference with existing emergency response or emergency evacuation plans for local, state or federal agencies. While temporary lane closures may be required during construction of roadway improvements (i.e., left turn pocket and widening of driveway) along Copper Hill Drive, complete street closures would not be required. Emergency access will not be restricted during roadway work along Copper Hill Drive. All emergency procedures would be implemented within local, state, and federal guidelines. Therefore, impacts to emergency response or evacuation plans would be considered less than significant.

h) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where		Х	
residences are intermixed with wildlands?			

The construction and operation of the proposed project would not result in any increase in the fire hazard at or near the project site. The County of Los Angeles has opened temporary fire stations while additional stations are being constructed in the planning area (County of Los Angeles, 2009). The nearest fire station to the proposed site is County Fire Station 108 located at 28799 Rock Canyon Drive approximately 0.88 mile northwest (this station would serve the new park). Since the project site is located in a wildland/urban interface, there is potential for wildland fires in the vicinity, however, the proposed project does not increase this risk of wildland fires. The proposed project would not result in any increase in exposure of people or structures to risk from wildland fires. Therefore, the impact from wildland fires would be considered less than significant.

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IX. Hydrology and Water Quality			
Would the project:			
a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?		Х	

The proposed project consists of demolition and construction activities. With incorporation of best management practices for erosion control and stormwater management during construction, these activities would not be expected to violate any applicable water quality standards or waste discharge requirements.

There are no surface water bodies on the site. The nearest watercourses are Bouquet Canyon Creek approximately 0.6 mile east, and the Santa Clara River approximately 2.4 miles south, of the project site. Bouquet Canyon Creek is a tributary of the Santa Clara River which drains into the Pacific Ocean (LARWQCB, 1994). Construction activities in the park are not likely to extend outside of the park boundaries and would not be expected to reach either water body.

As described in Section VI.(b), mitigation measures Soils 2 through Soils 8 (including standard erosion control measures) will be incorporated into project design and construction to prevent or reduce impacts to water quality. Therefore, impacts to water quality standards or waste discharge requirements would be considered less than significant.

Potential Impacts	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
b) Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?			X	

Santa Clarita is within the boundaries of the Eastern Santa Clara Groundwater Basin. The Santa Clara River is the largest river system in Southern California that remains in a relatively natural state (LARWQCB, 1994). The proposed site is located between Bouquet Canyon Creek and San Francisquito Canyon Creek, both tributaries to the Santa Clara River (LARWQCB, 1994). Recharge of the basin is from a variety of sources. Runoff contains natural stream flow from the surrounding mountains, precipitation falling on impervious areas, reclaimed wastewater, and industrial discharges. Water flowing in surface washes infiltrates into the basin (CDWR, 2004).

Water use at the proposed Copper Hill County Park would be limited to site watering for dust control during the construction phases, and site irrigation during operations. No other water use would occur during operation of the Phase 1 park. A restroom (with exterior water fountain) using low-flow water fixtures would be constructed as part of Phase 2.

The proposed park would change the impervious surface on the site from 0 to 12 percent. The use of porous asphalt concrete would further reduce the amount of impervious surface area within the park (LIN Consulting, Inc., 2009).

The proposed project would not result in substantial depletion of ground water supplies from the basin or interference with groundwater recharge. The project would not result in a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level. The proposed park would not substantially contribute to depletion of groundwater. Therefore, impacts to groundwater supplies would be considered less than significant.

site?	c)	Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner that would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?			X	
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The existing site topography is 5 to 15 ft lower on the north central portion of the site than the remainder area; the south portion of the site is relatively level (LIN Consulting, Inc., 2009). The proposed project would be designed to modify the existing on-site drainage pattern to accommodate the new public park and its parking lot, walkways and landscaped areas. The park would be designed to direct all surface drainage away from proposed structures so that ponding of water does not occur, especially near foundations. No streams or rivers would be altered. The park would be designed with a Low Impact Development (LID) drainage system with trench and area drains that capture and filter wastewater, stormwater and sediments before entering the storm drain system. During construction, the following best management practices would be in place to prevent erosion and siltation:

- Erosion control measures will be implemented during construction to minimize the potential for sediment to be picked up and transported off-site, or by runoff.
- Construction equipment will not be rinsed off on the site in a manner that would allow washwater to enter nearby drainageways.

- Construction materials will be covered and stored in contained areas.
- Cleaning and maintenance procedures for the park will include prohibiting any contaminated water or waste materials from entering storm drains.

With incorporation of these best management practices, impacts to drainage from the proposed project would be considered less than significant.

Potential Impacts	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
d) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner that would result in flooding on- or off- site?			X	

The site is located approximately 0.25 mile east of Haskell Canyon Creek, a 100-year floodplain. The existing site has a concrete inlet, drains and pipe structures used to capture stormwater runoff. Drainage on the site is currently to the northwest into two existing inlets: along Copper Hill Drive on the north part of the site; and, on the southwest corner of the site adjacent to Brookview Terrace. The proposed Copper Hill County Park would be designed to include drainage improvements including a new catch basin, manhole and storm drain piping that would provide increased infiltration and decreased runoff from the site. The proposed park would have a 24-inch diameter inlet structure, a catch basin and trench drains in addition to pervious pavement at 8 of the 22 parking spaces (approximately 1,300 sq ft) to allow infiltration, capture and filtration of runoff. The project would not substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or surrounding area. The proposed project would not result in any alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner that would result in flooding on- or off- site. With incorporation of the best management practices described in Section IX.c, impacts to drainage relative to flooding would be considered less than significant.

e) Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?		x	
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The proposed project would contribute to storm runoff due to an increase in impervious surface area. This would result from construction of a parking lot, walkways, a future restroom and a future gazebo within the park. The project would be designed with adequate stormwater drainage systems to accommodate the increase in runoff. The project will comply with National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) and its Standard Urban Stormwater Mitigation Plan (SUSMP) requirements. With proper design, impacts from increased runoff would be considered less than significant.

f) Otherwise substantially degrade water			
quality?		Х	

The proposed project would not result in any other effects that could substantially degrade water quality. The proposed project would be designed and constructed with all applicable and/or mandated Best Management Practices and Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan requirements including, but not limited to, sandbags, silt curtains and other standard BMPs to prevent and or minimize wastewater from entering into the existing storm drain system. Additionally, proposed Low Impact Development (LID) drainage improvements would be designed to capture and treat wastewater through permeable asphaltic paving, and a system of area drains and filters to minimize water quality impacts to the storm drain system. Therefore, impacts to water quality from the proposed project would be considered less than significant.

	Potential Impacts	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
g)	Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?				Х

The proposed project would not result in the placement of housing in the 100-year flood hazard area. Therefore, the project would not result in impacts from flooding.

h) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area			ĺ
structures that would impede or redirect		X	ı
flood flows?			ĺ

The proposed project would not result in the placement of structures within any 100-year flood hazard area. With incorporation of drainage improvements that increase infiltration, runoff from the park site would not be expected to impede flood flows in the area. Therefore, impacts associated with construction within a 100-year flood hazard area would be considered less than significant.

flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?	i)	Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?			Х		
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The proposed project consists of construction and operation of a new public park and would not expose people or property to an increase in flood-related hazards. Erosion control measures will be in place during construction. A riprap V-ditch on the northwest portion of the site, and swales along the park perimeter, would serve to direct water into a new catch basin. The proposed Copper Hill County Park would be designed to include drainage improvements including a new catch basin, inlet, trench drain and storm drain piping that would provide increased infiltration and decreased runoff from the site. Therefore, the impact from flooding would be considered less than significant.

j) Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?				Х	
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Flooding associated with seiches (wave-like oscillations of water in an enclosed basin caused by earthquakes, high winds or other atmospheric conditions) is not anticipated at the project site due to its distance from enclosed bodies of water. The project site is located north of the San Fernando Valley, approximately 30 miles from the Pacific Ocean; therefore, the potential for inundation by a tsunami is expected to be a rare occurrence. The proposed project would not result in any increased risk for inundation by mudflow. Therefore, impacts from seiche, tsunami or mudflow would not be expected.

X. Land Use and Planning		
Would the project:		
a) Physically divide an established community?		Х

The proposed project would consist of construction of a new public park on land owned by the County of Los Angeles. No additional land would be required. Therefore, the proposed project would not result in any impacts from physical division of the community.

Potential Impacts	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
b) Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?			Х	

The proposed park would be located in the planning area of the Santa Clarita Valley Area Plan, which is a component to the Los Angeles County General Plan. The goal of this community plan is to provide focused goals, policies and maps to guide the regulation of development within the unincorporated portions of the Santa Clarita Valley. The Santa Clarita Valley Area Plan designation for the proposed project site is Urban-Residential (UR2). The future land use at the park site would be recreational. Impacts to land use plans and policies from the proposed project would be considered less than significant.

The proposed site for Copper Hill County Park is zoned as Residential (R-1-5000) by County of Los Angeles Department of Regional Planning. The proposed park would be consistent with the Zone Change and Conditional Use Permit for the Haskell Canyon Subdivision (Project No. 88-082) which was approved by the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors on July 29, 1993 (this approval included the proposed development of a public park site with specific improvements). Therefore, impacts to zoning designations from the proposed project would be considered less than significant.

c) Conflict with any applicable habitat		
conservation plan or natural community		X
conservation plan?		

The proposed project is not located in the planning area of any Habitat Conservation Plan or Natural Community Conservation Plan. The project site is not located within any Los Angeles County Significant Ecological Area (SEA). The nearest SEAs to the project site are: the Santa Clara River SEA approximately 2.3 miles south; and, the Cruzan Mesa Vernal Pools SEA approximately 2.6 miles east. The proposed project would not conflict with any adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan. Therefore, the project would not result in any impact to conservation plans.

XI. Mineral Resources		
Would the project:		
Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?		Х

The project site is not located in a Mineral Resource Zone (MRZ), which are areas where geologic information indicates that significant inferred mineral resources are present. The proposed project would not result in loss of availability of any known mineral resources. Therefore, there would be no impact to mineral resources.

b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site		X
delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?		

The project site is not located within any mineral resource area delineated on a local land use plan. The proposed project would not require the removal of any locally important mineral resources, nor would it result in any interference with existing mining operations. Therefore, impacts to mineral resources would not be expected.

Potential Impacts	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XII. Noise Would the project result in:				
a) Exposure of persons to, or generation of, noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?			Х	

The primary noise source in the vicinity of the project site is motor vehicle traffic along Copper Hill Drive. The proposed site is approximately five miles from the Golden State Freeway (Interstate 5) and the Antelope Valley Freeway (State Route 14) which do not contribute to ambient noise levels at the site because of their distance. The nearest major roadway to the proposed park site is Copper Hill Drive which forms the northern boundary of the park. Traffic along Copper Hill Drive is associated primarily with residential areas between Haskell Canyon Road and Bouquet Canyon Road. The 24-hour average noise level along this segment of Copper Hill Drive is estimated to be 68.2 decibels at 50 ft from the roadway centerline (County of Los Angeles, 2009). As a major thoroughfare connecting the northern Santa Clarita communities, Copper Hill Drive experiences roadway noise during morning and evening peak hour traffic periods. Traffic noise generated by Copper Hill Drive is currently discernible at the project site. The nearest residences are approximately 75, 80 and 100 ft feet to the perimeter of the project site along Brookview Terrace, Copper Hill Drive and Cross Creek Drive, respectively.

Noise impacts from the proposed project would be a function of the noise generated by construction equipment, the location and sensitivity of nearby land uses, and the duration of the noise-generating activities. The construction of proposed park would include clearing, grading and excavation. Heavy equipment that could be used during construction of the park would include: backhoe, bulldozer, concrete truck, dump truck, front-end loader, paver, roller, and water truck. No pile driving would occur. Operation of expected construction equipment within the park site may generate intermittent noise levels up to an estimated maximum of 75 dBA at 75 ft from the source. During construction, temporary periods of increased noise levels could be expected in the immediate area of the park, including at the adjacent residences along Brookview Terrace, Copper Hill Drive and Cross Creek Drive.

The County of Los Angeles does not have quantifiable construction noise limits; however, Title 12 Section 12.12.030 of the Los Angeles County Code establishes construction noise limits based on the time and day as follows:

Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, a person, on any Sunday, or at any other time between the hours of 8:00 p.m. and 6:30 a.m. the following day, shall not perform any construction or repair work of any kind upon any building or structure, or perform any earth excavating, filling or moving, where any of the foregoing entails the use of any air compressors; jackhammers; power-driven drill; riveting machine; excavator, diesel-powered truck, tractor or other earth moving equipment; hand hammers on steel or iron, or any other machine, tool, device or equipment which makes loud noises to the disturbance of persons occupying sleeping quarters in a dwelling, apartment, hotel, mobilehome, or other place of residence. (Ord. 9818 § 1, 1969: Ord. 8594 § 6, 1964.)

Section 12.08.440 of the Los Angeles County Code contains restrictions applicable to construction noise. These guidelines:

- restrict the operation of construction equipment from 7:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. or at any time on Sundays or holidays;
- establish that maximum noise levels from mobile equipment shall not exceed 75 dBA from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., or 60 dBA from 8:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m., in single-family residential areas;
- establish that maximum noise levels from stationary equipment not exceed 60 dBA from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., or 50 dBA from 8:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m., in single-family residential areas;
- require that all mobile or stationary internal combustion engine-powered equipment of machinery be equipped with suitable exhaust and air-intake silencers in proper working order.

Although temporary noise increases associated with project construction may result in annoyance to some local residents, construction activities would be limited to daytime hours in accordance with noise restrictions established in Section 12.12.030 of the County Code. Noise from construction activities will be considered less than significant because the estimated noise will not exceed the maximum daytime construction noise limit applicable to residential areas which is 75 dBA for mobile equipment and 65 dBA for stationary equipment. Due to the proximity of the construction work area to residents west, north and east of the site, the following construction best management practices will be implemented:

- The construction contractor will conduct truck loading, unloading, hauling and other operations so that noise is kept to a minimum to avoid generating noise near residences.
- The construction contractor will post (on the construction site fencing) a phone number for noise complaints on the site, and address complaints within two (2) business days.

With regard to operation of the park, an average day-night sound level of 65 dBA is generally accepted as a standard for residential communities (HUD, 2010). As a land use compatibility guideline, this standard represents an averaged noise level over a 24-hour period and includes a penalty of 10dB³ for nighttime hours. The Los Angeles County Noise Control Ordinance, Title 12 of the County Code, was adopted by the Board of Supervisors in 1977 "...to control unnecessary, excessive, and annoying noise and vibration" It declared that County policy was to "...maintain quiet in those areas which exhibit low noise levels and to implement programs aimed at reducing noise in those areas within the county where noise levels are above acceptable values" (Section 12.08.010 of the County Code). On August 14, 2001, the Board of Supervisors approved an ordinance amending Title 12 of the County Code to prohibit loud, unnecessary, and unusual noise that disturbs the peace and/or quiet of any neighborhood or which causes discomfort or annoyance to any reasonable person of normal sensitivity residing in the area. Regulations can include requirements for sound barriers, mitigation measures to reduce excessive noise, or the placement and orientation of buildings, and can specify the compatibility of different uses with varying noise levels. The County exterior noise standard for residential properties is 45 decibels from 10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. (nighttime) and 50 decibels for 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. (daytime). These noise standards are applicable to residential areas adjacent to the proposed park site. Noise generated by operation the Phase 1 park would be nearly inaudible to the nearest residences because only passive activities would occur in the park. Passive activities are not scheduled or structured, and would include walking, exercising, bicycling. Increased noise would be attributed to

Noise levels during Phase 2 park operations (with activity on the play court/basketball court and gazebo) would be greater that Phase 1 operational noise. Noise from activities at these structures in the park would be masked by traffic noise along Copper Hill Drive. Although there may be periods of time when noise generated at the play court/basketball court may be discernible to residents, noise levels during Phase 2 operation of the park would not be expected to exceed the applicable daytime or nighttime Los Angeles County exterior noise standards when averaged over 24 hours. Therefore, impacts to noise from operation of the new park would be considered less than significant.

temporary periods when automobiles enter or exit the parking lot. Anticipated noise levels during Phase 1 operation of the park would not be expected to exceed Los Angeles County exterior noise standards.

When noise levels over a 24-hour period are averaged, the eight hours in the nighttime are assessed a 10 dB penalty to account for the impact of noise during these hours.

Potential Impacts	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
b) Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?		Х	

Construction activities will not include the use of any equipment that is considered an impact device (no pile driving would occur). Excessive amounts of groundborne vibration or noise levels would not be expected from compacting and grading equipment to be used. Therefore, impacts from groundborne vibration would be considered less than significant.

c) A substantial permanent increase in ambient			
noise levels in the project vicinity above		X	
levels existing without the project?			

Both Phases 1 and 2 development of the park would result in a permanent increase in ambient noise levels as a result of vehicles in the parking lot and human noise emanating from within the park into the surrounding community. Noise from the proposed park would not be perceptible to most residents because of the existing ambient noise associated with Copper Hill Drive. The existing ambient noise is approximately 68 decibels (see Section XII.a). In addition, because Phase 1 development of the park would not contain any active recreational facilities, the increase in ambient noise levels associated with Phase 1 of the park would be minimal. The ambient noise level expected from Phase 2 of the park would be greater than the Phase 1 development of the park because of the addition of the gazebo and play court/basketball court. A substantial permanent increase in the 24-hour average ambient noise level in the park vicinity would not be expected because of the limited size of the park, its limited parking, and because noise level increases would be restricted by park hours. Increased noise levels associated with group picnics and other activities during operation of the Phase 2 park would occur only during scheduled park hours. During periods with park activity, noise outside the park boundaries may be perceptible to surrounding residents. The permanent increase in ambient noise levels would not be substantial because no change to existing ambient noise levels in the project vicinity after park hours (i.e., at dusk) would occur. Therefore, impacts to ambient noise levels in the project vicinity would be considered less than significant.

d) A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?		X	
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The proposed project would result in temporary increases in noise levels during construction as a result of the use of heavy construction equipment. Intermittent noise levels up to 75 dBA at nearby residences could result during construction which would be limited to daytime only (construction would be limited to daytime hours, typically 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.). These conditions would not result in a substantial increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity. Intermittent noise at this level would not result in a violation of the maximum daytime noise level restriction for mobile equipment which is noise in excess of 75 dBA in single-family residential areas.

Operation of the new park would also result in periodic increases in noise levels during group activities in Phase 2 of the park. These conditions also would not represent a substantial increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity. Therefore, the temporary or periodic increases in ambient noise from the proposed project would be considered less than significant.

	Potential Impacts	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
, i	For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?				Х

The proposed project is not located within any Airport Master Plan area or within two miles of any public or public use airport. The nearest public use airport is Agua Dulce Airport approximately 11 miles east of the site. Therefore, the project would not result in impacts from excessive noise levels within an airport land use plan or near a public use airport.

f)	For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people		X	
	residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?			

The proposed park would not be located in the vicinity of any private airstrips. The proposed project would not expose people residing or working in the area to excessive noise levels. Therefore, there would be no impact from excessive noise exposure within the vicinity of a private airstrip.

XIII. Population and Housing Would the project:		
a) Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?		Х

Although the proposed project will result in an increase in the presence of people at the location, the project would not directly or indirectly induce population growth because no new housing or businesses would be provided and no infrastructure would be extended. Residents in the surrounding community would be the primary users of the park. The proposed project would not have direct growth inducing effects, although it would support the recreational needs associated with ongoing growth in the local community. The proposed project would not indirectly induce substantial population grown in the area or result in the need for additional infrastructure. Therefore, the project would not result in impacts to population growth.

b) Displace substantial numbers of existing		Х
housing, necessitating the construction of		
replacement housing elsewhere?		

The proposed project would not displace any housing. The proposed park would be constructed within the boundaries of vacant land owned by the County of Los Angeles. Therefore, the project would not result in any impacts to housing.

c) Displace substantial numbers of people,		X
necessitating the construction of replacement		
housing elsewhere?		

The proposed project would not displace any people, or result in the need for replacement housing elsewhere. Therefore, the proposed project would not result in any impacts to housing.

Potential Impacts	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XIV. Public Services				
Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:				
a) Fire protection?			Х	

Fire protection services for the Santa Clarita community are provided by the Los Angeles County Fire Department, along with several local, State and federal agencies under mutual aid agreements (County of Los Angeles, 2009). The nearest fire station to the proposed park is Fire Station No. 156 at 24525 W. Copper Hill Drive, approximately 1.6 miles from the site. The proposed project would result in a new public facility that will require fire protection services, but this would not result in a substantial increase in the demand for fire protection services or generate a need for new fire stations in the area. Therefore, impacts to fire protection would be considered less than significant.

The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department police protection in the project area. The proposed project would not interfere with circulation for pedestrians, vehicles, and police patrols. The proposed project would result in a new public facility that will require police protection services, but this would not result in a substantial increase in the demand for police protection services. The increase in service that would be required is not considered substantial because police protection is already provided in this area (i.e., the area is not remote to the existing service area). Therefore, impacts to police protection would be considered less than significant.

c) Schools?				Х
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The proposed project would not generate any additional population in the area, and therefore would not impact local school enrollments. The proposed project would not otherwise adversely impact existing and planned schools in the area. The project may have a beneficial effect on local schools that utilize new recreational facilities that would be located in the new park. Therefore, no adverse impacts to schools would result from the proposed project.

d) F	Parks?		Х

The proposed park would result in a beneficial effect on parks by providing a new facility in the local community. Therefore, the proposed project would not result in substantial adverse impacts to existing or planned parks in the region. New facilities at this park would provide improved recreational opportunities to the local community. Therefore, the proposed project would not result in substantial adverse impacts to existing or planned parks in the region.

e) Other public facilities?				Х	
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The proposed project facilities would be operated and maintained by the County of Los Angeles or its designated operator. Therefore, the proposed project would not result in any impacts to other public facilities.

Potential Impacts XV. Recreation	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?			Х	

The purpose of the proposed project is to improve recreational and community opportunities in unincorporated Los Angeles County and the Santa Clarita community by providing a new park facility for use by the general public. The proposed project would not result in substantial deterioration of other existing recreational facilities at a rate greater than normal use would cause. Increased use of those parks will occur but would not result in accelerated physical deterioration of planned facilities because these parks are being designed to accommodate the anticipated users. Therefore, impacts to existing or planned neighborhood and regional parks would be considered less than significant.

b) Does the project include recreational facilities		Χ	
or require the construction or expansion of			
recreational facilities that might have an			
adverse physical effect on the environment?			

The proposed project would result in a new 4.05-acre public park with the features described herein. Physical effects on the environment would be limited to temporary construction-related impacts (i.e., noise, traffic and air pollutant emissions). Therefore, impacts to the environment from the new public park would be considered less than significant.

XVI. Transportation/Traffic Would the project:			
a) Conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system, taking into account all modes of transportation including mass transit and non-motorized travel and relevant components of the circulation system, including but not limited to intersections, streets, highways and freeways, pedestrian and bicycle paths, and mass transit)?		X	

Copper Hill Drive, serving as the primary access road to the proposed park, is a 4-lane secondary highway from Seco Canyon Road to Bouquet Canyon Road. There are no bike paths along the frontage of the proposed park. As a secondary highway, when fully improved and operating at a Level of Service LOS) E⁴, can accommodate approximately 36,000 vehicles per day. Average daily traffic⁵ along Copper Hill Drive is shown on Table 14.

Level of Service (LOS) E is characterized by significant delays and average travel speeds of 33 percent or less of the Free Flow Speed. Such operations are caused by a combination of adverse progression, high signal density, high volumes, extensive delays at critical intersection, and inappropriate signal timing. LOS E represents a roadway operating at the maximum capacity.

⁵ Average daily traffic is the average number of vehicles that travel a segment of roadway during a 24-hour period.

Table 14. Average Daily Traffic on Copper Hill Drive

End 1	End 2	Average Daily Traffic	Speed
Haskell Canyon Road	David Way/Bouquet Canyon Road	17,000	40 mph

Source: County of Los Angeles, 2009

The existing LOS for Copper Hill Drive at the project site is LOS A⁶ for morning and afternoon peak hours using 2008 traffic counts shown in a recent EIR traffic study (Land Design Consultants, Inc., 2008) and based upon the 2000 Highway Capacity Manual Exhibit 21.2 using the assumption of a 45 miles per hour free flow speed with two westbound through lanes, and two eastbound though lanes merging to one lane just east of the project site.

During construction, trucks and workers would access the work site on a daily basis using the park entrance on Copper Hill Drive. Assuming that all the workers travel in single occupant vehicles, this is estimated to result in an additional 20 inbound and outbound vehicle trips. These trips would occur before morning and evening peak hour traffic. Movement of the construction vehicles and equipment would not be expected to result in any change to the volume-to-capacity ratio of area roadways or congestion at intersections in the local area. Additionally, construction-related traffic would be a short-term condition and is not expected to result in any substantial effects on traffic.

While the proposed park would serve the local community with many patrons arriving on foot or bicycle, it is estimated that Phase 1 of the park would result in approximately 90 daily visitors accessing the park in approximately 64 vehicles during its daily hours of operation. This is based on the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) Trip Generation Manual and the San Diego Municipal Code Trip Generation Manual. In addition, normal maintenance activities would also result in up to five (5) vehicles entering the parking lot each day. No permanent personnel would be assigned on a daily basis to the proposed park.

Completion of Phase 2 of the park may result in an increase in traffic over Phase 1 levels. The increase in park visitors would be associated with use of the play court/basketball court and gatherings (such as group picnics, parties or small weddings subject to advance approval of the County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation) in the gazebo⁷. It is estimated that Phase 2 of the park would result in up to 150 daily visitors accessing the park in up to 107 vehicles during its daily hours of operation. In addition, normal maintenance activities would result in continuation of up to five (5) vehicles entering the parking lot each day. No permanent personnel would be assigned on a daily basis to the proposed park. The additional in-bound/out-bound vehicles to the park for gatherings in the gazebo would not be expected to exceed the current level of service standard for Copper Hill Drive.

Based on the ITE Trip Generation Manual and the San Diego Municipal Code Trip Generation Manual, the expected daily vehicle trips that would be generated by the Phase 1 and 2 improvements at the proposed Copper Hill County Park would be 4 in/4 out during the morning peak hour and 8 in/8 out during the afternoon peak hour (107 daily vehicle trips). Using these added trips, the level of service for Copper Hill Drive after Phase 1 and 2 park improvements would remain LOS A during the morning and afternoon peak hours. The highest number of trips on a Saturday would be about 5 in/4 out per ITE. Because weekday afternoon trip generation governs the parking design, the planned number of parking spaces (up to 22 spaces) would be sufficient.

Advisable road improvements would be roadway signage and to stripe a left turn pocket lane westbound using the existing striped median pavement width. Pocket lengths for this application would typically be approximately 200 ft. No deceleration lane or right turn pocket eastbound would be necessary. No roadway widening would be required.

Copper Hill Drive is a roadway segment in the planning area of the Circulation Element of the Santa Clarita Valley Area Plan (County of Los Angeles, 2009). This plan does not specify an acceptable Level of Service for long-range planning nor does it recommend any reclassification or designations for

Level of Service (LOS) A is characterized by no delays at intersections with continuous, free flow of traffic.

⁷ For purposes of this evaluation, it was assumed that gatherings in the park (i.e., use of the gazebo) would be limited to less than 50 persons per event.

Copper Hill Drive at this time. The proposed project would not conflict with any plan, ordinance or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system, taking into account all modes of transportation including mass transit and non-motorized travel and relevant components of the circulation system, including but not limited to intersections, streets, highways and freeways, pedestrian and bicycle paths, and mass transit. Therefore, impacts to traffic levels of service on roads and highways would be considered less than significant.

Potential Impacts	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
b) Conflict with an applicable congestion management program, including, but not limited to level of service standards and travel demand measures, or other standards established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?			X	

The Congestion Management Plan (CMP) adopted by the CMP agency in Los Angeles County in 1992 (and most recently updated in 2004) does not designate Copper Hill Drive as a CMP roadway. The proposed park along Copper Hill Drive would be a neighborhood park used primarily by local residents. The proposed project would not conflict with the Los Angeles County CMP, its level of service standards, travel demand measures, or other standards established for designated roads or highways. Therefore, impacts to the congestion management efforts from the proposed project would be considered less than significant.

a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?	c)					х	
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The proposed project would not result in any changes to air traffic patterns that could result in any increases in safety risks. Therefore, the project would not result in any impacts to air traffic patterns.

d)	Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g. sharp curves or		Х	
	dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?			
	uses (e.g., iaiiii equipiileiit):			

Roadway modifications and improvements along Copper Hill Drive to provide safe access into the proposed park will be included in accordance with requirements of the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works and Department of Regional Planning. Road improvements would include widening of the driveway, roadway signage, and striping of a left turn pocket lane westbound using the existing striped median pavement width. Pocket lengths for this application would typically be approximately 200 ft. The front of the park would be designed to provide adequate sight distance to allow left turns out of the park driveway onto Copper Hill Drive. The Los Angeles County Department of Public Works (Traffic and Lighting Division) has completed a sight distance analysis for vehicles exiting the park. Based on these findings, the park will be designed to provide adequate sight distance to allow left turns out of the park driveway onto Copper Hill Drive. Based on Section 405.1 of the CalTrans Highway Design Manual, a minimum stopping sight distance of 430 ft from the observer point at the park driveway will be required to provide a safe sight distance when making a left turn out of the new park driveway. To achieve this requirement, some minor grading of the existing frontage slope located to the right (when exiting) out of the park is required. Also, a small retaining wall located at the Southern California Edison electrical transformers, also to the right when exiting the park, will need to be reduced in height from approximately 5.5 ft to approximately 2.5 ft in order to provide clear sight access when exiting the park in a vehicle. No deceleration lane or right turn pocket eastbound would be necessary. No substantial increase in hazards or incompatible uses would be anticipated as a result of the proposed project. Therefore, impacts from roadway hazards associated with design features or incompatible uses would be considered less than significant.

Potential Impacts	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
e) Result in inadequate emergency access?				Х

Emergency access would not be impeded during the construction period when vehicles would be parked within the interior of the site. Access would be from the existing driveway along Copper Hill Drive. The new public park would be operated in accordance with safety policies defined in the Los Angeles County Safety Element and would follow the appropriate area emergency response plan. No changes in access to emergency facilities or nearby land uses are expected to occur as a result of implementation of the project. Therefore, the project would not result in any impacts to emergency access.

safety of such facilities?

The proposed project would be designed and operated to support alternative transportation with the inclusion of a bicycle racks in the parking lot. There are no bike lanes or bus turnouts along Copper Hill Drive. The Santa Clarita Bus (Route 620) runs morning and afternoons along Copper Hill Drive and has a stop at the intersection of Deer Springs Drive. As described herein, roadway modifications and improvements to provide safe access into the proposed park will be included in accordance with County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works and Department of Regional Planning requirements. Therefore, the proposed project would not result in any conflicts with policies that support public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities. The proposed project would not otherwise decrease the performance or safety of such facilities. Therefore, impacts to public transit performance and safety would be considered less than significant.

XVII. Utilities and Service Systems Would the project:			
a) Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?		Х	

No wastewater would be generated from Phase 1 of the park. Phase 2 of the park would include a restroom building containing an estimated six toilets, two urinals, four sinks, and one utility sink. Although not designed at this time, the restroom building would likely include low-flow fixtures and waterless urinals. Water fountains would be installed on the outside wall of the restroom building. The park would be designed to incorporate LID drainage improvements to capture and filter water and sediments before entering the storm drain system. There are no treatment requirements for domestic wastewater established by the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board applicable to the proposed project. Therefore, impacts to water quality standards or waste discharge requirements would be considered less than significant.

b) Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause	х	
the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?		

The primary sources of water in the planning area include groundwater pumped from the aquifers in the East Subbasin, supplemented by imported water from the State Water Project (County of Los Angeles, 2009). Water for the park would be provided by the Santa Clarita Water Division who purchases it from the Castaic Lake Water Agency.

Wastewater from the park would be generated after completion of the Phase 2 restroom building and would be discharged to the local sewer line (owned, operated and maintained by the County of Los Angeles) for conveyance to the Los Angeles County Sanitation District's Bouquet Canyon relief trunk sewer. Located in Bouquet Canyon Road at Festividad Drive, this 24-inch diameter trunk sewer line has a design capacity of 12.4 million gallons per day (mgd) and conveyed a peak flow of 3.2 mgd when last measured in 2008 (LACSD, 2010).

The Los Angeles County Sanitation District operates two water reclamation plants (WRP), the Saugus WRP and the Valencia WRP, which provide wastewater treatment in the Santa Clarita Valley. These facilities are interconnected to form a regional treatment system known as the Santa Clarita valley Joint Sewerage System (SCVJSS). The SCVJSS has a design capacity of 28.1 mgd and currently processes an average flow of 20.3 mgd (LACSD, 2010).

The proposed project would not require the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities, or the expansion of existing facilities. Therefore, impacts to water or wastewater treatment facilities from the proposed project would be considered less than significant.

Potential Impacts	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
c) Require or result in the construction of new stormwater drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?			X	

The proposed project would require modification of the existing on-site stormwater drainage system to accommodate the new parking lot and other surfaces on the park. New storm drain pipes, a grass swale catch basin, a trench grate junction structure and a manhole pipe would be constructed, while the existing concrete inlet structure and concrete V-drain would be removed. The park would be designed to incorporate LID drainage improvements to capture and filter water and sediments before entering the storm drain system. The proposed project would not require or result in the construction of new stormwater drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities. Therefore, impacts from construction of the storm drainage system would be considered less than significant.

d) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements	X	
and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?		

Water for the proposed park would be provided by the Santa Clarita Water Division using supplies from the Castaic Lake Water Agency which utilizes groundwater supplies derived from recharge of the unchannelized Santa Clara River and its tributaries. Evidence shows that no adverse impacts on basin recharge have occurred due to the use of local groundwater supplies, consistent with the operating plan for the basin. Recharge of groundwater has not been reduced nor has stored groundwater been depleted in the local basin (County of Los Angeles, 2009).

The proposed project would use a limited amount of water (trucked to the site on water trucks) to control dust during the construction period. Design of the park would include water conservation features for park operations. The first phase of the park would include an irrigation system. Landscaping in the park would be composed of drought-tolerant plants to minimize use of water. The second phase of the park would include a restroom building (with exterior water fountain) with low-flow water fixtures. The

proposed park would not require new or expanded water entitlements. Therefore, impacts to water supply would be considered less than significant.

Potential Impacts	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
e) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider, which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?			Х	

The Los Angeles County Sanitation District would provide wastewater disposal and treatment for the proposed park. The Los Angeles County Sanitation District has prepared a Facilities Plan for the Santa Clarita Valley which identifies planned expansions through 2015. The proposed project would not result in generation of wastewater that would exceed the capacity of the provider. The operation of the proposed park would result in wastewater generation only after completion of the restroom building planned for Phase 2 (no wastewater would be generated from the Phase 1 park). The project would be designed to include low-flow water fixtures. It is estimated that operation of the new restroom (Phase 2) would result in generation of up to 60 gallons of wastewater per day (LACSD, 2010). This amount of wastewater has been accounted for in planned expansion of treatment facilities for the Santa Clarita Valley. Therefore, impacts to wastewater treatment systems would be considered less than significant.

f)	Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?			Х	
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The Santa Clarita Valley is served by three Class III (non-hazardous) landfills: Chiquita Canyon Landfill near Val Verde; Antelope Valley Landfill in Palmdale; and, Sunshine Canyon Landfill in Sylmar. With approved expansions, these landfills will have capacity to serve the valley beyond 2020 (County of Los Angeles, 2009). Construction activities would generate solid waste, however waste management during construction would include diversion of wastes from disposal through recycling and reuse. Construction wastes would not be expected to significantly impact landfill capacities. Solid waste from the project would be disposed of in any of the approved landfills. The proposed park would be designed to include recycling of wastes. Operation of the proposed park would not be expected to generate a substantial increase in solid waste. The project would be served by a landfill with permitted capacity to accommodate solid waste disposal needs. Therefore, impacts to solid waste disposal would be considered less than significant.

g) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?		х		
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All solid waste disposal would be managed in accordance with applicable federal, state and local statutes and regulations. Therefore, impacts to solid waste would be considered less than significant.

Potential Impacts XVIII. Mandatory Findings of Significance	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?			X	

The analysis conducted in this Initial Study results in a determination that the project, with implementation of mitigation measures, would result in a less than significant effect on the local environment. The construction activities associated with the proposed project would not be expected to substantially degrade fish, wildlife, and/or plant populations (mitigation for avoidance and protection of off-site oak trees and protection of native plant growth would be incorporated into project planning). Intrusion on any previously undiscovered cultural or historic resources would not be anticipated (mitigation for inadvertent discovery of cultural materials has been included in Section 2.V.b). The proposed site does not contain any important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory. Therefore, the project would result in a less than significant impact on the quality of the environment.

effects of probable future projects.)	b)	Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the			Х	
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There is one planned project within 1.0 mile of the proposed Copper Hill County Park site (a radius of 1.0 mile was used to represent the anticipated sphere of influence where environmental impacts could be evident for a project of this type). According to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15355, cumulative impacts refer to two or more individual effects which, when considered together, are considerable or which compound or increase other environmental impacts. As noted in Section 1.13, there is one probable future project (construction of 95 single-family housing) that could overlap with construction of the proposed project. As discussed in Section 2.III(c), air pollutant emissions of the related project, when added to emissions from the proposed project, would not exceed significance thresholds. Therefore, the proposed project would not have a cumulative impact on air quality.

The proposed project would generate construction and operational greenhouse gas emissions at the same time as other projects in the area. The cumulative impact analysis for greenhouse gases is evaluated on a global scale. The cumulative condition for operational greenhouse gas emissions would include emissions occurring worldwide, all of which contribute to global emissions. The proposed construction and operation of the park will not generate enough greenhouse gas emissions to influence global climate change on its own. If viewed apart from greenhouse gas emissions produced by activities elsewhere in the world, the greenhouse gas emissions from the proposed project would be so minute that

the concentration of global greenhouse gas emissions in the atmosphere would essentially remain the same. The impact of the proposed project's contribution to greenhouse gases during the operational phase, therefore, is not considered cumulatively considerable.

The proposed project would not result in any impacts to agriculture and forest resources, mineral resources, or population and housing. As such, the proposed project would not contribute to cumulative impacts in these environmental resource areas.

The proposed project would have a less than significant impact on aesthetics, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, land use and planning, noise, public services, recreation, transportation/traffic, and utilities/service systems. When combined with the effects of the construction or operation of 95 single-family housing south of the proposed park site, the combined impacts would not be considerable or compound other environmental impacts for the following reasons:

- The combined effects on aesthetics would not result in a substantial change to any scenic vistas or substantially degrade the visual character of the area.
- The combined effects on hazards and hazardous materials would not increase risk to the public.
- The combined effects on hydrology and water quality would not result in degradation of water quality or otherwise affect drainage or water resources.
- The combined effects on land use and planning would not divide communities or conflict with land use plans or policies.
- The combined effects on noise would not result in generation of noise levels in excess of standards nor would a substantial increase in ambient noise levels result.
- The combined effects on public services would not result in a substantial increase in the need for fire protection, police protection, schools, parks or other public facilities.
- The combined effects on recreation would not result in a substantial increase in use of facilities or accelerated deterioration of existing facilities.
- The combined effects on transportation/traffic would not result in cumulative impacts because access to the park would not be along the same roadways as would be used for the new housing.
- The combined effects on utilities/service systems would not result in the need for new water or wastewater treatment, stormwater drainage, water supply, or landfill facilities.

Impacts of the proposed project on biological resources, cultural resources, and geology/soils would not be considered significant with the incorporation of mitigation measures. When combined with the effects of the construction or operation of 95 single-family housing south of the proposed park site, the combined impacts would not be considerable or compound other environmental impacts for the following reasons:

- The combined effects on biological resources would not result in a substantial loss of listed or special status species of plants or wildlife in the area.
- The combined effects on cultural resources would not result in a substantial loss of historic, archaeological or paleontological resources in the area.
- The combined effects on geology and soils would not increase the risks from geologic hazards or result in substantial erosion or loss of topsoil.

For these environmental resource areas, contributions of the proposed project would not be cumulatively considerable. When the potential impacts of the proposed project are viewed in connection with past and ongoing projects (both of which have been incorporated into the existing baseline of environmental conditions), its impacts would not be considered cumulatively considerable. Therefore, the cumulative impacts of the proposed project are considered less than significant.

Potential Impacts	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
c) Does the project have environmental effects that will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?			Х	

Direct and indirect substantial adverse effects on human beings would not be expected as a result of the project. The proposed project would result in a new public park for the local community. Short term effects from air pollutant emissions and localized increases in traffic would occur during the construction period; these effects would not be considered significant because they would not exceed established criteria. Potential impacts from construction noise would not be considered significant because mitigation measures to prevent and minimize the short term effects have been included in the project. Potential impacts to biological, cultural, geologic and water resources would be avoided or minimized by mitigation measures that would be incorporated during the design, construction and operation phase of the project.

This park would be designed to incorporate energy and water conservation and efficiency, in order to prevent or reduce adverse environmental effects. The public park would become a new recreational opportunity for the community which is considered a beneficial effect of the project. Therefore, direct and indirect environmental effects on human beings from the project would be considered less than significant.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 21083, 21083.05, Public Resources Code. Reference: Section 65088.4, Gov. Code; Sections 21080, 21083.05, 21095, Pub. Resources Code; *Eureka Citizens for Responsible Govt v. City of Eureka* (2007) 147 Cal. App.4th 357; *Protect the Historic Amador Waterways v. Amador Water Agency* (2004) 116 Cal.App.4th at 1109; *San Franciscans Upholding the Downtown Plan v. City and County of San Francisco* (2002) 102 Cal.App.4th 656.

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APPENDIX A CULTURAL RESOURCES ASSESSMENT FOR COPPER HILL PARK PROJECT

Cultural Resources Assessment for the Copper Hill Park Project, Santa Clarita, Los Angeles County, California

Prepared for:

County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation

and

Parsons Corporation

Prepared by:

SWCA Environmental Consultants

March 2010

CULTURAL RESOURCES ASSESSMENT FOR THE COPPER HILL PARK PROJECT, SANTA CLARITA, LOS ANGELES COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

Prepared for

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USGS 7.5-Minute Topographic Quadrangle Newhall, CA 1995

SWCA Project No. 16206

SWCA Cultural Resources Report Database No. 2010-37

March 2010

Keywords: CEQA; cultural resources survey; negative results; 8 acres; unincorporated Los Angeles County; Newhall quadrangle; Township 4 North; Range 16 West;

MANAGEMENT SUMMARY/ABSTRACT

Purpose and Scope: Parsons retained SWCA Environmental Consultants (SWCA) to conduct a cultural resources literature search, Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) Sacred Lands File search, initial Native American coordination, cultural resources intensive-level survey, and to prepare this report in support of the proposed County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation Copper Hill Park Project in the community of Santa Clarita, in an unincorporated area of Los Angeles County, California. This study was completed under the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 5024.1, Section 15064.5 of the Guidelines, and Sections 21083.2 and 21084.1 of the Statutes of CEQA were also used as the basic guidelines for the cultural resources study (Governor's Office of Planning and Research 1998).

Dates of Investigation: The California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS) records search was conducted by Caprice (Kip) Harper at the South Central Coastal Information Center (SCCIC) located at California State University, Fullerton on January 6, 2010. The California NAHC Sacred Lands File search was also initiated on January 21, 2010. The results of the Sacred Lands File search and a list of Native American contacts was received from the NAHC on January 25, 2010. Letters requesting information on known cultural resources were sent to the identified Native American contacts on February 2, 2010. SWCA staff conducted intensive-level archaeological surveys on January 26, 2010.

Summary of Findings: Thirteen prior cultural resource studies have been conducted within a one-mile radius of the project area. Two of the prior studies involved a portion of the project area. Seven cultural resources were identified within a one-mile radius of the project area. The records found no previously recorded cultural resources located in the project area. The NAHC Sacred Lands File search revealed that no Native American cultural resources are known in the project area. SWCA's intensive-level survey did not identify any archaeological or built environment resources within the project area. The results of the study indicate that the project area has been previously disturbed by extensive ground disturbances and that there is a low potential to encounter subsurface archaeological deposits.

Investigation Constraints: Most of the project area has been heavily developed within the last 20 years and has been largely disturbed by modern human activity. The intensive-level archaeological survey was partially constrained by previous disturbances such as grading and ornamental landscaping (this obscures visibility of the surface). The preliminary geotechnical report determined that the 2 feet of sediments within the project area consist of fill soils, and that fill soils deeper than 2 feet shall be anticipated at other locations in the project area.

Recommendations: Because no "historical resources" as defined in CEQA were identified in the proposed project area, no additional cultural resources mitigation measures should be necessary beyond those identified herein or in the CEQA document. Standard archaeological mitigation measures to minimize impacts to unanticipated discovery of below-ground cultural resources or the unanticipated discovery of human remains are described below.

In the event that cultural resources are exposed during construction, work in the immediate vicinity of the find must stop until a qualified archaeologist can evaluate the significance of the find. Construction activities may continue in other areas. If the discovery proves significant under CEQA, additional work such as testing or data recovery may be warranted. The methods employed during monitoring or recovery of archaeological resources should be documented in a report of findings.

The discovery of human remains is always a possibility during ground disturbances; State of California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 addresses these findings. This code section states that no further disturbance shall occur until the Los Angeles County Coroner (the Coroner) has made a determination of origin and disposition pursuant to PRC Section 5097.98. The Coroner must be notified of the find immediately. If the human remains are determined to be prehistoric, the Coroner will notify the NAHC,

which will determine and notify a Most Likely Descendant (MLD). The MLD shall complete the inspection of the site within 48 hours of notification and may recommend scientific removal and nondestructive analysis of human remains and items associated with Native American burials.

Disposition of Data: This report and any subsequent related reports will be filed with Parsons; SCCIC at California State University, Fullerton; and with SWCA Environmental Consultants. All field notes, photographs, and records related to the current study are on file at the SWCA South Pasadena, California, office.

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INTRODUCTION

SWCA Environmental Consultants (SWCA) was retained by Parsons Corporation to conduct a cultural resources literature search, initial Native American coordination and to perform a cultural resources site visit in support of a cultural resources technical report for the proposed Copper Hill Park Project. The project is located at Assessor's Parcel Number (APN) 3244-151-900, at the intersection of Copper Hill Drive and Brookview Terrace, in the community of Santa Clarita in an unincorporated area of Los Angeles County, California. The community of Santa Clarita is approximately 30 miles northwest of downtown Los Angeles. The proposed Copper Hill Park Project is approximately six miles east of the Interstate 5 Freeway.

This study was completed under the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 5024.1, Section 15064.5 of the Guidelines, and Sections 21083.2 and 21084.1 of the Statutes of CEQA were also used as the basic guidelines for the cultural resources study (Governor's Office of Planning and Research 1998). PRC Section 5024.1 requires the identification and evaluation of cultural resources to determine their eligibility for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR). The CRHR is a listing of the state's historical resources, and indicates which properties are to be protected from substantial adverse change, as defined in CEQA, to the extent prudent and feasible.

Caprice D. (Kip) Harper, M.A., RPA (Cultural Resources Project Manager), managed the project, conducted the records and literature review at the SCCIC, and acted as principal investigator and quality control officer; Holly Rendon, B.S. (Cultural Resources Specialist) prepared the report; John Covert, B.A. (Cultural Resources Specialist) participated in the cultural resources survey, took the photographs found in this report, and assisted in the preparation of the report; and Elizabeth Slocum, B.A. (Technical Editor) edited the report.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The proposed project is an undeveloped lot, approximately 4 acres, at 21380 Copper Hill Drive. The project is located at the intersection of Copper Hill Drive and Deer Spring Drive in the community of Santa Clarita in an unincorporated portion of Los Angeles County, California. Figure 1 shows the project location on the U.S. Geologic Survey (USGS) Newhall, California 7.5-minute quadrangle. Figure 2 shows an aerial photograph of the proposed project area.

The proposed project involves the construction of a 4.2-acre public park at Assessor's Parcel Number (APN) 3244-151-900. The project would be constructed in two phases. The initial phase (Phase 1) includes a parking lot, open turf play areas, decomposed granite walkways, drainage improvements, irrigation system, and landscaping. Figure 3 illustrates the site layout for Phase 1. Phase 2 includes a gazebo, playground, a play court, picnic areas, a restroom building, and some additional landscaping. Figure 4 illustrates the site layout for Phase 2, the completed park.

The proposed project was originally part of the residential development known as Tentative Tract Map 47657. In July 2002, the in lieu of fee was paid as part of the Park Obligation Report for Tract 47657 and the 8 acres of land were dedicated to the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation. The purpose of the proposed project is to provide a new public park to the community and improve the recreational opportunities in the Santa Clarita area. The Copper Hill Park will mainly serve the residences of the City of Santa Clarita.

The project area has been subject to grading and fill. The maximum depth of excavation is 1-5 feet below the existing ground surface throughout the project area.

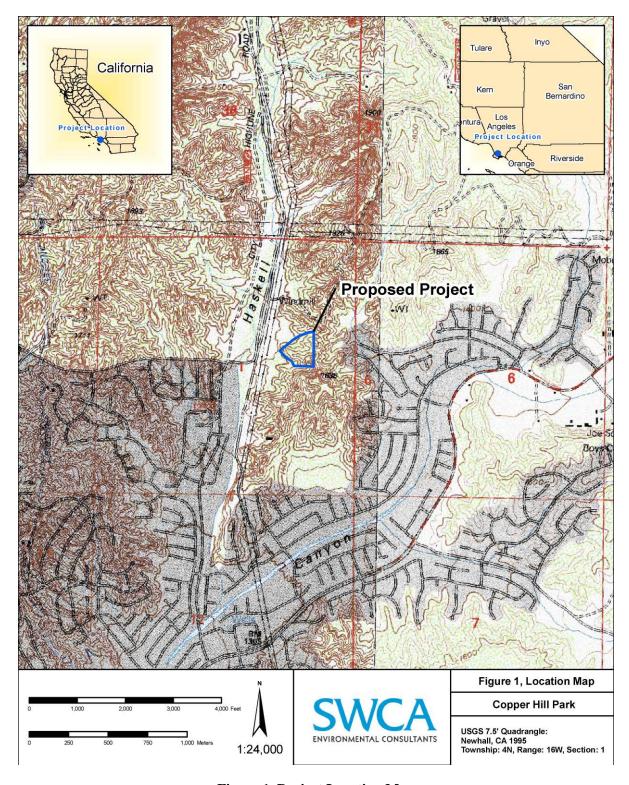


Figure 1. Project Location Map



Figure 2. Aerial Photograph of Copper Hill Park Project



Figure 3. Site Layout of Copper Hill Park Project (Phase 1) (Parsons 2010)

SWCA Environmental Consultants



Figure 4. Site Layout of Copper Hill Park Project (Phase 2) (Parsons 2009)

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LAWS, ORDINANCES, REGULATIONS, AND STANDARDS

This section includes a discussion of the applicable laws, ordinances, regulations, and standards governing cultural resources, which must be adhered to before and during construction of the proposed Copper Hill Park Project. State and local ordinances are included.

STATE

CEQA requires a lead agency to determine whether a project may have a significant effect on historical resources. If it can be demonstrated that a project will cause damage to a unique archaeological resource, the lead agency may require reasonable efforts be made to permit any or all of these resources to be preserved in place or left in an undisturbed state. To the extent that they cannot be left undisturbed, mitigation measures are required (Section 21083.2[a], [b], and [c]). Section 21083.2(g) describes a *unique archaeological resource* as an archaeological artifact, object, or site about which it can be clearly demonstrated that without merely adding to the current body of knowledge, there is a high probability that it meets any of the following criteria:

- 1) Contains information needed to answer important scientific research questions and that there is a demonstrable public interest in that information.
- 2) Has a special and particular quality such as being the oldest of its type or the best available example of its type.
- 3) Is directly associated with a scientifically recognized important prehistoric or historic event or person.

A historical resource is a resource listed in, or determined to be eligible for listing, in the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR) (Section 21084.1), a resource included in a local register of historical resources (Section 15064.5[a][2]), or any object, building, structure, site, area, place, record, or manuscript that a lead agency determines to be historically significant (Section 15064.5[a][3]).

PRC Section 5024.1, Section 15064.5 of the Guidelines, and Sections 21083.2 and 21084.1 of the Statutes of CEQA were used as the basic guidelines for the cultural resources study. PRC Section 5024.1 requires evaluation of historical resources to determine their eligibility for listing in the CRHR. The purpose of the register is to maintain listings of the state's historical resources and to indicate which properties are to be protected from substantial adverse change. The criteria for listing resources on the CRHR were expressly developed to be in accordance with previously established criteria developed for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), enumerated below.

According to PRC Section 5024.1(c)(1–4), a resource is considered historically significant if it retains "substantial integrity" and meets at least one of the following criteria:

- 1) Is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of California's history and cultural heritage;
- 2) Is associated with the lives of persons important in our past;
- 3) Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region or method of installation, or represents the work of an important creative individual, or possesses high artistic values; or
- 4) Has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Impacts to significant cultural resources that affect the characteristics of any resource that qualify it for the NRHP or adversely alter the significance of a resource listed on or eligible for listing in the CRHR are considered a significant effect on the environment. Impacts to significant cultural resources from the proposed project are considered significant if the project physically destroys or damages all or part of a resource, changes the character of the use of the resource or physical feature within the setting of the resource which contribute to its significance, or introduces visual, atmospheric, or audible elements that diminish the integrity of significant features of the resource. These impacts include "physical demolition, destruction, relocation, or alteration of the resource or its immediate surroundings such that the significance of an historical resource would be materially impaired" (CEQA Guidelines, Section 15064.5 [b][1], 2000). Material impairment is defined as demolition or alteration "in an adverse manner [of] those characteristics of an historical resource that convey its historical significance and that justify its inclusion in, or eligibility for inclusion in, the California Register..." (CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5[b][2][A]).

The disposition of burials falls first under the general prohibition on disturbing or removing human remains under California Health and Safety Code 7050.5. More specifically, remains suspected to be Native American are treated under CEQA at Section 15064.5 and cite language found at PRC Section 5097.98 that illustrates the process to be followed in the event that remains are discovered. If human remains are discovered during the construction of the proposed project, no further disturbance to the site shall occur and the Los Angeles County Coroner must be notified. If the Coroner determines the remains to be Native American, the coroner shall notify the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) within 48 hours. The NAHC shall identify the person or persons it believes to be the Most Likely Descendant (MLD) of the deceased. The MLD may then make recommendations as to the disposition of the remains.

LOCAL

County of Los Angeles

Historical, cultural, and paleontological resources are discussed in the County's Conservation and Open Space Element of the draft General Plan (2007:140). The County recognizes that historical and cultural resources are an important part of the County's identity and contribute to the local economy. The goals and policies that apply to historical, cultural, and paleontological resources are as follows:

- **Policy C/OS 12.1:** Support an inter-jurisdictional collaborative system that protects and enhances the County's cultural heritage resources.
- **Policy C/OS 12.2:** Support initiatives that improve the effectiveness of the Los Angeles County Landmarks Commission and the preservation of historical buildings.
- **Policy C/OS 12.3:** Ensure proper notification procedures to Native American tribes in accordance with Senate Bill 18 (2004).
- **Policy C/OS 12.4:** Promote public awareness of the County's cultural heritage resources.

ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

The Copper Hill Park Project (the project area) is at 21380 Copper Hill Drive in Santa Clarita, in an unincorporated area of Los Angeles County, California, approximately six miles from the City of Santa Clarita. The project site is surrounded by single-family residential developments to the north, east, and southwest. South of the project area is open-space, undeveloped land. The project is located at the intersection of Copper Hill Drive and Deer Spring Drive; east of Haskell Canyon Road and West of High

Ridge Drive in the community of Santa Clarita. The project area is approximately 30 miles northwest of downtown Los Angeles and approximately six miles east of the Golden State Freeway (Interstate 5).

NATURAL SETTING

The proposed project is located in the Santa Clarita Valley in an unincorporated portion of Los Angeles County. The Santa Clarita Valley is located on the northern side of the Traverse Range. The project site lies near the junction of the Sierra Pelona foothills and the San Gabriel Mountains. Other major geologic features in the vicinity include the Soledad Canyon and the Santa Clara River to the south, the Santa Susana Mountains in the southwest, and Castaic Valley located in the west.

The project area is located within the Ventura Basin, a large east-trending sedimentary basin within the western Transverse Ranges geomorphic province. The Ventura Basin is approximately 40 miles wide and 165 miles long and includes the offshore Santa Barbara Channel. It is bounded to the north by the Santa Ynez and Topatopa Mountains, to the south by the Channel Islands and Santa Monica Mountains, and to the east by the San Gabriel Mountains. The Ventura Basin is a remnant Cretaceous forearc basin that has been filled with more than 17,700 meters (58,000 feet) of mostly marine sedimentary rocks, from Cretaceous to Recent in age (Norris and Webb, 1976).

Haskell Canyon trends in a north-south direction and forms the upper Santa Clara River drainage system. The project area is located at the mouth of Haskell Canyon. The project site was originally on both sides of a small ridge extending west towards Haskell Canyon.

The climate is described as warm and dry, like most of inland southern California. Average annual rainfall for this area is approximately 18 inches.

The area surrounding the project is characterized as a highly disturbed urban setting consisting primarily of residential development. The project area is generally flat and has been disturbed previously by grading. The project area is at an elevation of approximately 1,400 to 1,440 feet above mean sea level (amsl). Vegetation is limited to nonnative grasses and some ornamental landscaping. A small grove of oak trees is located at the northwestern corner of the project site. Although the project area has been heavily modified by previous grading and regular mowing and landscaping, the project falls within an area classified by four primary plant communities. These plant communities consist of Riversidian alluvial fan sage scrub, non-native grassland, chaparral, and scrub oak woodland (Ty Garrison, SWCA biologist, personal communication 2010).

CULTURAL SETTING

PREHISTORIC OVERVIEW

Numerous chronological sequences have been devised to aid in understanding cultural changes within southern California. Building on early studies and focusing on data synthesis, Wallace (1955, 1978) developed a prehistoric chronology for the southern California coastal region that is still widely used today and is applicable to near-coastal and many inland areas. Four periods are presented in Wallace's prehistoric sequence: Early Man, Milling Stone, Intermediate, and Late Prehistoric. Although Wallace's (1955) synthesis initially lacked chronological precision due to a paucity of absolute dates (Moratto 1984:159), this situation has been alleviated by the availability of thousands of radiocarbon dates that have been obtained by southern California researchers in the last three decades (Byrd and Raab 2007:217). Several revisions have been made to Wallace's (1955) synthesis using radiocarbon dates and projectile point assemblages (e.g., Koerper and Drover 1983; Mason and Peterson 1994; Koerper et al. 2002).

Horizon I-Early Man (ca. 10,000-6,000 B.C.)

When Wallace defined the Horizon I (Early Man) period in the mid-1950s, there was little evidence of human presence on the southern California coast prior to 6000 B.C. Archaeological work in the intervening years has identified numerous pre-8000 B.C. sites, both on the mainland coast and the Channel Islands (e.g., Erlandson 1991; Johnson et al. 2002; Moratto 1984; Rick et al. 2001:609). The earliest accepted dates for occupation are from two of the northern Channel Islands, located off the coast of Santa Barbara. On San Miguel Island, Daisy Cave clearly establishes the presence of people in this area about 10,000 years ago (Erlandson 1991:105). On Santa Rosa Island, human remains have been dated from the Arlington Springs site to approximately 13,000 years ago (Johnson et al. 2002). Present-day Orange and San Diego counties contain several sites dating to 9,000 to 10,000 years ago (Byrd and Raab 2007:219; Macko 1998a:41; Mason and Peterson 1994:55–57; Sawyer and Koerper 2006). Known sites dating to the Early Man period are rare in western Riverside County. One exception is the Elsinore site (CA-RIV-2798-B), which has deposits dating as early as 6630 calibrated B.C. (Grenda 1997:260).

Recent data from Horizon I sites indicate that the economy was a diverse mixture of hunting and gathering, with a major emphasis on aquatic resources in many coastal areas (e.g., Jones et al. 2002) and on Pleistocene lakeshores in eastern San Diego County (see Moratto 1984:90–92). Although few Clovis-like or Folsom-like fluted points have been found in southern California (e.g., Dillon 2002; Erlandson et al. 1987), it is generally thought that the emphasis on hunting may have been greater during Horizon I than in later periods. Common elements in many sites from this period, for example, include leaf-shaped bifacial projectile points and knives, stemmed or shouldered projectile points, scrapers, engraving tools, and crescents (Wallace 1978:26–27). Subsistence patterns shifted around 6000 B.C. coincident with the gradual desiccation associated with the onset of the Altithermal climatic regime, a warm and dry period that lasted for about 3,000 years. After 6000 B.C., a greater emphasis was placed on plant foods and small animals.

Horizon II–Milling Stone (6000–3000 B.C.)

The Milling Stone Horizon of Wallace (1955, 1978) and Encinitas Tradition of Warren (1968) (6000–3000 B.C.) are characterized by subsistence strategies centered on collecting plant foods and small animals. Food procurement activities included hunting small and large terrestrial mammals, sea mammals, and birds; collecting shellfish and other shore species; near-shore fishing with barbs or gorges; the processing of yucca and agave; and the extensive use of seed and plant products (Kowta 1969; Reinman 1964). The importance of the seed processing is apparent in the dominance of stone grinding implements in contemporary archaeological assemblages, namely milling stones (metates and slabs) and handstones (manos and mullers). Milling stones occur in large numbers for the first time during this period, and are more numerous still near the end of this period. Recent research indicates that Milling Stone Horizon food procurement strategies varied in both time and space, reflecting divergent responses to variable coastal and inland environmental conditions (Byrd and Raab 2007:220).

Milling Stone Horizon sites are common in the southern California coastal region between Santa Barbara and San Diego, and at many inland locations, including the Prado Basin in western Riverside County and the Pauma Valley in northeastern San Diego County (e.g., Herring 1968; Langenwalter and Brock 1985; Sawyer and Brock 1999; Sutton 1993; True 1958). Wallace (1955, 1978) and Warren (1968) relied on several key coastal sites to characterize the Milling Stone period and Encinitas Tradition, respectively. These include the Oak Grove Complex in the Santa Barbara region, Little Sycamore in southwestern Ventura County, Topanga Canyon in the Santa Monica Mountains, and La Jolla in San Diego County. The well-known Irvine site (CA-ORA-64) has occupation levels dating between ca. 6000 and 4000 B.C. (Drover et al. 1983; Macko 1998b).

Stone chopping, scraping, and cutting tools made from locally available raw material are abundant in Milling Stone/Encinitas deposits. Less common are projectile points, which are typically large and leaf-shaped, and bone tools such as awls. Items made from shell, including beads, pendants, and abalone dishes, are generally rare. Evidence of weaving or basketry is present at a few sites. Kowta (1969) attributes the presence of numerous scraper-planes in Milling Stone sites to the preparation of agave or yucca for food or fiber. The mortar and pestle, associated with pounding foods such as acorns, were first used during the Milling Stone Horizon (Wallace 1955, 1978; Warren 1968).

Cogged stones and discoidals are diagnostic Milling Stone period artifacts, and most specimens have been found within sites dating between 4000 and 1000 B.C. (Moratto 1984:149). The cogged stone is a ground stone object with gear-like teeth on its perimeter. Discoidals are similar to cogged stones, differing primarily in their lack of edge modification. Discoidals are found in the archaeological record subsequent to the introduction of the cogged stone. Cogged stones and discoidals are often purposefully buried, and are found mainly in sites along the coastal drainages from southern Ventura County southward, with a few specimens inland at Cajon Pass, and heavily in Orange County (Dixon 1968:63; Moratto 1984:149). These artifacts are often interpreted as ritual objects (Eberhart 1961:367; Dixon 1968:64–65), although alternative interpretations (such as gaming stones) have also been put forward (e.g., Moriarty and Broms 1971).

Characteristic mortuary practices of the Milling Stone period or Encinitas Tradition include extended and loosely flexed burials, some with red ochre, and few grave goods such as shell beads and milling stones interred beneath cobble or milling stone cairns. "Killed" milling stones, exhibiting holes, may occur in the cairns. Reburials are common in the Los Angeles County area, with north-oriented flexed burials common in Orange and San Diego counties (Wallace 1955, 1978; Warren 1968).

Koerper and Drover (1983) suggest that Milling Stone period sites represent evidence of migratory hunters and gatherers who used marine resources in the winter and inland resources for the remainder of the year. Subsequent research indicates greater sedentism than previously recognized. Evidence of wattle-and-daub structures and walls has been identified at several sites in the San Joaquin Hills and Newport Coast area (Mason et al. 1991, 1992, 1993; Koerper 1995; Strudwick 2005; Sawyer 2006), while numerous early house pits have been discovered on San Clemente Island (Byrd and Raab 2007:221–222). This architectural evidence and seasonality studies suggest semi-permanent residential base camps that were relocated seasonally (de Barros 1996; Koerper et al. 2002; Mason et al. 1997) or permanent villages from which a portion of the population left at certain times of the year to exploit available resources (Cottrell and Del Chario 1981).

Horizon III-Intermediate (3000 B.C.-A.D. 500)

Following the Milling Stone Horizon, Wallace's Intermediate Horizon and Warren's Campbell Tradition in Santa Barbara, Ventura, and parts of Los Angles counties, date from approximately 3000 B.C. to A.D. 500 and are characterized by a shift toward a hunting and maritime subsistence strategy, along with a wider use of plant foods. The Campbell Tradition (Warren 1968) incorporates David B. Rogers' (1929) Hunting Culture and related expressions along the Santa Barbara coast. In the San Diego region, the Encinitas Tradition (Warren 1968) and the La Jolla Culture (Moriarty 1966; Rogers 1939, 1945) persist with little change during this time.

During the Intermediate Horizon and Campbell Tradition, there was a pronounced trend toward greater adaptation to regional or local resources. For example, an increasing variety and abundance of fish, land mammal, and sea mammal remains are found in sites along the California coast during this period. Related chipped stone tools suitable for hunting are more abundant and diversified, and shell fishhooks become part of the toolkit during this period. Larger knives, a variety of flake scrapers, and drill-like implements are common during this period. Projectile points include large side-notched, stemmed, and

lanceolate or leaf-shaped forms. Koerper and Drover (1983) consider Gypsum Cave and Elko series points, which have a wide distribution in the Great Basin and Mojave deserts between ca. 2000 B.C. and A.D. 500, to be diagnostic of this period. Bone tools, including awls, were more numerous than in the preceding period, and the use of asphaltum adhesive was common.

Mortars and pestles became more common during this period, gradually replacing manos and metates as the dominant milling equipment. Hopper mortars and stone bowls, including steatite vessels, appeared in the toolkit at this time as well. This shift appears to correlate with the diversification in subsistence resources. Many archaeologists believe this change in milling stones signals a shift away from the processing and consuming of hard seed resources to the increasing importance of the acorn (e.g., Glassow et al. 1988; True 1993). It has been argued that mortars and pestles may have been used initially to process roots (e.g., tubers, bulbs, and corms associated with marshland plants), with acorn processing beginning at a later point in prehistory (Glassow 1997:86) and continuing to European contact.

Characteristic mortuary practices during the Intermediate Horizon and Campbell Tradition included fully flexed burials, placed face down or face up, and oriented toward the north or west (Warren 1968:2–3). Red ochre was common, and abalone shell dishes were infrequent. Interments sometimes occurred beneath cairns or broken artifacts. Shell, bone, and stone ornaments, including charmstones, were more common than in the preceding Encinitas Tradition. Some later sites include *Olivella* shell and steatite beads, mortars with flat bases and flaring sides, and a few small points. The broad distribution of steatite from the Channel Islands and obsidian from distant inland regions, among other items, attest to the growth of trade, particularly during the later part of this period. Recently, Raab and others (Byrd and Raab 2007:220–221) have argued that the distribution of *Olivella* grooved rectangle (OGR) beads marks "a discrete sphere of trade and interaction between the Mojave Desert and the southern Channel Islands."

Horizon IV-Late Prehistoric (A.D. 500-Historic Contact)

In the Late Prehistoric Horizon (Wallace 1955, 1978), which lasted from the end of the Intermediate (ca. A.D. 500) until European contact, there was an increase in the use of plant food resources in addition to an increase in land and sea mammal hunting. There was a concomitant increase in the diversity and complexity of material culture during the Late Prehistoric, demonstrated by more classes of artifacts. The recovery of a greater number of small, finely chipped projectile points, usually stemless with convex or concave bases, suggests an increased usage of the bow and arrow rather than the atlatl (spear thrower) and dart for hunting. Other items include steatite cooking vessels and containers, the increased presence of smaller bone and shell circular fishhooks, perforated stones, arrow shaft straighteners made of steatite, a variety of bone tools, and personal ornaments made from shell, bone, and stone. There is also an increased use of asphalt for waterproofing and as an adhesive.

Many Late Prehistoric sites contain beautiful and complex objects of utility, art, and decoration. Ornaments include drilled whole venus clam (*Chione* spp.) and drilled abalone (*Haliotis* spp.). Steatite effigies become more common, with scallop (*Pecten* spp. and *Argopecten* spp.) shell rattles common in middens. Mortuary customs are elaborate and include cremation and interment with abundant grave goods. By A.D. 1000, fired clay smoking pipes and ceramic vessels began to appear at some sites (Drover 1971, 1975; Meighan 1954; Warren and True 1984). The scarcity of pottery in coastal and near-coastal sites implies ceramic technology was not well developed in that area, or that ceramics were obtained by trade with neighboring groups to the south and east. The lack of widespread pottery manufacture is usually attributed to the high quality of tightly woven and watertight basketry that functioned in the same capacity as ceramic vessels.

Another feature typical of Late Prehistoric period occupation is an increase in the frequency of obsidian imported from the Obsidian Butte source in Imperial County, California. Obsidian Butte was exploited after ca. A.D. 1000 when it was exposed by the receding waters of Holocene Lake Cahuilla (Wilke 1978).

A Late Prehistoric period component of the Elsinore site (CA-RIV-2798-A) produced two flakes that originated from Obsidian Butte (Grenda 1997:255; Towner et al. 1997:224–225). Although about 16 percent of the debitage at the Peppertree site (CA-RIV-463) at Perris Reservoir is obsidian, no sourcing study was done (Wilke 1974:61). The site contains a late Intermediate to Late Prehistoric period component, and it is assumed that most of the obsidian originated from Obsidian Butte. In the earlier Milling Stone and Intermediate periods, most of the obsidian found at sites within Orange County and many inland areas came from northern sources, mostly the Coso volcanic field. This also appears to be the case within Prado Basin and other interior sites that have yielded obsidian (e.g., Grenda 1995:59; Taşkiran 1997:46). The presence of Grimes Canyon (Ventura County) fused shale at southern California archaeological sites is also thought to be typical of the Late Prehistoric period (Demcak 1981; Hall 1988).

During this period, there was an increase in population size accompanied by the advent of larger, more permanent villages (Wallace 1955:223). Large populations and, in places, high population densities are characteristic, with some coastal and near-coastal settlements containing as many as 1,500 people. Many of the larger settlements were permanent villages in which people resided year-round. The populations of these villages may have also increased seasonally.

In Warren's (1968) cultural ecological scheme, the period between A.D. 500 and European contact is divided into three regional patterns. The Chumash Tradition is present mainly in the region of Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties; the Takic or Numic Tradition is present in the Los Angeles, Orange, and western Riverside Counties region; and the Yuman Tradition is present in the San Diego region. The seemingly abrupt changes in material culture, burial practices, and subsistence focus at the beginning of the Late Prehistoric period are thought to be the result of a migration to the coast of peoples from inland desert regions to the east. In addition to the small triangular and triangular side-notched points similar to those found in the desert regions in the Great Basin and Lower Colorado River, Colorado River pottery and the introduction of cremation in the archaeological record are diagnostic of the Yuman Tradition in the San Diego region. This combination certainly suggests a strong influence from the Colorado Desert region.

In Los Angeles, Orange, and western Riverside Counties, similar changes (introduction of cremation, pottery, and small triangular arrow points) are thought to be the result of a Takic migration to the coast from inland desert regions. This Takic or Numic Tradition was formerly referred to as the "Shoshonean wedge" or "Shoshonean intrusion" (Warren 1968). This terminology, used originally to describe a Uto-Aztecan language group, is generally no longer used to avoid confusion with ethnohistoric and modern Shoshonean groups who spoke Numic languages (Heizer 1978:5; Shipley 1978:88, 90). Modern Gabrielino/Tongva, Juaneño, and Luiseño in this region are considered the descendants of the prehistoric Uto-Aztecan, Takic-speaking populations that settled along the California coast during this period or perhaps somewhat earlier.

ETHNOGRAPHIC OVERVIEW

Historically, tribal boundaries in southern California were not established definitively and were considered to be fluid, due to either sociopolitical features or a lack of reliable data (Bean and Smith 1978). Although the project area falls within the Tataviam/Alliklik tribal boundaries delineated by Bean and Smith (1978), the Kitanemuk, Chumash, and Gabrielino/Tongva have occupied territories in the surrounding areas. The following section discusses each individual native group, their location and habitation trends within southern California. A discussion of the material cultural of the Gabrielino/Tongva, which is typical of all of the groups, is provided in that section.

Tataviam

The Tataviam territories included the upper reaches of the Santa Clara River drainage east of Piru Creek, but also encompassed the Sawmill Mountains to the north and the southwestern portion of the Antelope Valley. There are different hypotheses in regards to the affiliation of the Tataviam language. Scholars hypothesize that the Tataviam may have spoken a language that was uncommonly used in Southern California, or that they may have spoken a Takic language like their southern neighbors (King and Blackburn 1978). As with most languages, the Takic dialects may have been more noticeable at the geographic extremes, while in actuality there was likely a continuum of slight sound and synonym shifts from one community to the next. One scholar has suggested that the northern edge of Western Tongva lands were home to the Tataviam Takic speakers, a related but separate language from Northern Takic (Mithun 1999:539).

Kitanemuk

The Kitanemuk are one of the least-known ethnographic groups in California, despite being considered by researchers as the main aboriginal inhabitants of Antelope Valley (Sutton 1979, 1987). Kitanemuk territory extended from the Tehachapi Mountains at the northwestern edge of the Antelope Valley southeast to beyond Rosamond Lake, although their populations were densest in the mountains at the southern end of the San Joaquin Valley (Blackburn and Bean 1978:564; Kroeber 1925:611). Like the Kawaiisu, the Kitanemuk were primarily mountain dwellers who lived in semi-permanent village sites that functioned as year-round base camps; during the late winter and early spring expeditions ventured onto the desert floor in pursuit of available seasonal resources (Earle 1997).

Kroeber (1925:611) notes that the Kitanemuk were a subdivision of the Serrano, and thus spoke a language of the Takic family that was similar to dialects spoken by groups living as far south and east as Yucca Valley and Twentynine Palms. Although some aspects of Kitanemuk social organization are similar to those of other Takic speaking groups, Blackburn and Bean (1978:564) argue that Kitanemuk ritual, mythology and shamanism were most strongly shaped by their neighbors to the north (Kawaiisu and Tubatulabal) and west (Chumash). The Kitanemuk appear to have enjoyed particularly strong trade ties with coastal and inland Chumash groups (Blackburn and Bean 1978:564; Kroeber 1925:613)

Modern-day descendants of the Kitanemuk live at the Tule River Reservation, Porterville, and Tejon Ranch (Four Directions Institute 2010).

Chumash

Chumash territory traditionally included the region from San Luis Obispo to Malibu Canyon on the coast and inland to the western edge of the San Joaquin Valley. Chumash territory also extended westward to the northern Santa Barbara Channel Islands, including San Miguel, Santa Rosa, Santa Cruz, and Anacapa. There were believed to be at least six different Chumash languages spoken within these territories; Ventureño, Barbareño, Ynezeño, Purisimeño, Obispeño, and the Island language; however, it is not possible to verify any Chumash linguistic data since the death of Mary Yee, the last native speaker of Barbareño, in 1965.

Of these six groups, the Ventureño Chumash were thought to have occupied the region closest to the project area (Grant 1978). The Ventureño's western boundary was just east of the headwaters of the Santa Ynez and Cuyama Rivers, encompassing the Oxnard Plain. Located at the southern extent of Chumash territory, the Ventureño were in contact with the Western Tongva, the people who occupied the region to the east (Bean and Smith 1978:547). The border between the Ventureño and Western Tongva was not well defined and both groups near the boundary appear to have shared cultural traits with each other. More detailed work with the sacramental registers at Mission San Fernando has identified a number of

people from previously identified "Tongva" villages in the western San Fernando Valley with identifiably Chumash names. Recent detailed analysis of the Mission San Fernando records have lead to the realization that some Chumash villages may have been recorded under their Tongva names (King and Johnson 1999).

Gabrielino/Tongva

The name Gabrielino denotes those people who were administered by the Spanish from Mission San Gabriel, which included people from the Gabrielino proper, as well as other social groups (Bean and Smith 1978; Kroeber 1925). Therefore, in the post-Contact period, the name does not necessarily identify a specific ethnic or tribal group. The names Native Americans in southern California used to identify themselves have, for the most part, been lost. Many contemporary Gabrielino identify themselves as descendents of the indigenous people living across the plains of the Los Angeles Basin and refer to themselves as the *Tongva*.

The Gabrielino language, as well as that of the Juaneño and Luiseño to the south, was derived from the Takic family, part of the Uto-Aztecan linguistic stock, which can be traced to the Great Basin area (Mithun 1999:539). This language group represents an origin quite different from that of the Chumash to the north and the Ipai and Tipai further south. The language of the Ipai and Tipai is derived from the Hokan stock of the Yuman language family originating in the American Southwest. The Chumash language is unlike both the Hokan and Uto-Aztecan stocks, and may represent a separate lineage (Mithun 1999:390). Linguistic analysis suggests that Takic-speaking immigrants from the Great Basin area began moving into southern California around 500 B.C. (Kroeber 1925:579). This migration may have displaced both Chumashan- and Yuman-speaking peoples. The timing and extent of the migrations and their impact on indigenous peoples is not well understood, and any data related to it represent a valuable contribution to the understanding of local prehistory.

Gabrielino lands encompassed the greater Los Angeles Basin and three Channel Islands, San Clemente, San Nicolas, and Santa Catalina. Inland, their territory was bounded on the north by the Chumash at Topanga Creek, the Serrano at the San Gabriel Mountains in the east, and the Juaneño on the south at Aliso Creek (Bean and Smith 1978:538; Kroeber 1925:636). This southern boundary of Gabrielino territory at Aliso Creek was recorded based on anthropological fieldwork conducted by Kroeber in 1907 (Kroeber 1925), and the Juaneño currently dispute the defined northern boundary of their lands with the Gabrielino at Aliso Creek.

The Tongva established large, permanent villages in the fertile lowlands along rivers and streams, and in sheltered areas along the coast, stretching from the foothills of the San Gabriel Mountains to the Pacific Ocean. A total tribal population has been estimated of at least 5,000 (Bean and Smith 1978:540), but recent ethnohistoric work suggests a number approaching 10,000 seems more likely (O'Neil 2002).

Houses constructed by the Tongva were large, circular, domed structures made of willow poles thatched with tule that could hold up to 50 people (Bean and Smith 1978). Other structures served as sweathouses, menstrual huts, ceremonial enclosures, and probably communal granaries. Cleared fields for races and games, such as lacrosse and pole throwing, were created adjacent to Tongva villages (McCawley 1996:27). Archaeological sites comprised of villages with various sized structures have been identified.

The fundamental economy of the Tongva was one of subsistence gathering and hunting. The surrounding environment was rich and varied, and the tribe exploited mountains, foothills, valleys, deserts, riparian, estuarine, and open and rocky coastal eco-niches. Like most native Californians, acorns were the staple food (an established industry by the time of the early Intermediate Period). Acorns were supplemented by the roots, leaves, seeds, and fruits of a wide variety of flora (e.g., islay, *Opuntia*, yucca, sages, and agave). Fresh- and saltwater fish, shellfish, birds, reptiles, and insects, as well as large and small mammals, were also consumed.

A wide variety of tools and implements were used by the Tongva to gather and collect food resources. These included the bow and arrow, traps, nets, blinds, throwing sticks and slings, spears, harpoons, and hooks. Groups residing near the ocean used ocean-going plank canoes and tule balsa canoes for fishing, travel, and trade between the mainland and the Channel Islands (McCawley 1996:7).

Foods were processed with a variety of tools, including hammerstones and anvils, mortars and pestles, manos and metates, strainers, leaching baskets and bowls, knives, bone saws, and wooden drying racks. Food was consumed from a variety of vessels. Catalina Island steatite was used to make ollas and cooking vessels (Kroeber 1925:629).

At the time of Spanish contact, the basis of Tongva religious life was the Chinigchinich Cult, centered on the last of a series of heroic mythological figures. Chinigchinich gave instruction on laws and institutions, and also taught the people how to dance, the primary religious act for this society. He later withdrew into heaven, where he rewarded the faithful and punished those who disobeyed his laws (Kroeber 1925:637–638). The Chinigchinich religion seems to have been relatively new when the Spanish arrived, and was spreading south into the Southern Takic groups even as Christian missionization was taking place, and may have been influenced by Christianity.

Deceased Tongva were either buried or cremated (Harrington 1942; McCawley 1996). During the Contact Period, cremation was the standard practice for the mainland Tongva. Cremation ashes have been found in archaeological contexts buried within stone bowls and in shell dishes (Ashby and Winterbourne 1966:27). Archaeological and ethnographic data describe a wide variety of grave offerings, including seeds, stone grinding tools, otter skins, baskets, wood tools, shell beads, bone and shell ornaments, and projectile points and knives. Offerings varied with the sex and status of the deceased. Graves were sometimes marked, and in the San Pedro area headstones or boards were etched with figures.

HISTORIC OVERVIEW

Post-Contact history for the state of California is generally divided into three periods: the Spanish Period (1769–1822), Mexican Period (1822–1848), and American Period (1848–present). Although Spanish, Russian, and British explorers visited the area for brief periods between 1529 and 1769, the Spanish Period in California begins with the establishment in 1769 of a settlement at San Diego and the founding of Mission San Diego de Alcalá, the first of 21 missions constructed between 1769 and 1823. Independence from Spain in 1821 marks the beginning of the Mexican Period, and the signing of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo in 1848, ending the Mexican-American War, signals the beginning of the American Period when California became a territory of the United States.

Spanish Period (1769–1822)

Spanish explorers made sailing expeditions along the coast of southern California between the mid-1500s and mid-1700s. In search of the legendary Northwest Passage, Juan Rodríquez Cabríllo stopped in 1542 at present-day San Diego Bay. With his crew, Cabríllo explored the shorelines of present Catalina Island as well as San Pedro and Santa Monica Bays. Much of the present California and Oregon coastline was mapped and recorded in the next half-century by Spanish naval officer Sebastián Vizcaíno. Vizcaíno's crew also landed on Santa Catalina Island and at San Pedro and Santa Monica Bays, giving each location its long-standing name. The Spanish crown laid claim to California based on the surveys conducted by Cabríllo and Vizcaíno (Bancroft 1885:96–99; Gumprecht 1999:35).

More than 200 years passed before Spain began the colonization and inland exploration of Alta California. The 1769 overland expedition by Captain Gaspar de Portolá marks the beginning of California's Historic period, occurring just after the King of Spain installed the Franciscan Order to direct religious and colonization matters in assigned territories of the Americas. With a band of 64 soldiers,

missionaries, Baja (lower) California Native Americans, and Mexican civilians, Portolá established the Presidio of San Diego, a fortified military outpost, as the first Spanish settlement in Alta California. In July of 1769, while Portolá was exploring southern California, Franciscan Fr. Junípero Serra founded Mission San Diego de Alcalá at Presidio Hill, the first of the 21 missions that would be established in Alta California by the Spanish and the Franciscan Order between 1769 and 1823.

The Portolá expedition first reached the present-day boundaries of Los Angeles in August 1769, thereby becoming the first Europeans to visit the area. Father Crespi named "the campsite by the river Nuestra Señora la Reina de los Angeles de la Porciúncula" or "Our Lady the Queen of the Angeles of the Porciúncula." Two years later, Friar Junípero Serra returned to the valley to establish a Catholic mission, the Mission San Gabriel Arcángel, on September 8, 1771 (Kyle 2002:151).

Mexican Period (1822–1848)

A major emphasis during the Spanish Period in California was the construction of missions and associated presidios to integrate the Native American population into Christianity and communal enterprise. Incentives were also provided to bring settlers to pueblos or towns, but just three pueblos were established during the Spanish Period, only two of which were successful and remain as California cities (San José and Los Angeles). Several factors kept growth within Alta California to a minimum, including the threat of foreign invasion, political dissatisfaction, and unrest among the indigenous population. After more than a decade of intermittent rebellion and warfare, New Spain (Mexico and the California territory) won independence from Spain in 1821. In 1822, the Mexican legislative body in California ended isolationist policies designed to protect the Spanish monopoly on trade, and decreed California ports open to foreign merchants (Dallas 1955:14).

Extensive land grants were established in the interior during the Mexican Period, in part to increase the population inland from the more settled coastal areas where the Spanish had first concentrated their colonization efforts. Nine ranchos were granted between 1837 and 1846 in the future Orange County (Middlebrook 2005). Among the first ranchos deeded within the future Orange County were Manuel Nieto's Rancho Las Bolsas (partially in future Los Angeles County), granted by Spanish Governor Pedro Fages in 1784, and the Rancho Santiago de Santa Ana, granted by Governor José Joaquín Arrillaga to José Antonio Yorba and Juan Pablo Peralta in 1810 (Hallan-Gibson 1986). The secularization of the missions following Mexico's independence from Spain resulted in the subdivision of former mission lands and establishment of many additional ranchos.

During the supremacy of the ranchos (1834–1848), landowners largely focused on the cattle industry and devoted large tracts to grazing. Cattle hides became a primary southern California export, providing a commodity to trade for goods from the east and other areas in the United States and Mexico. The number of nonnative inhabitants increased during this period because of the influx of explorers, trappers, and ranchers associated with the land grants. The rising California population contributed to the introduction and rise of diseases foreign to the Native American population, who had no associated immunities.

American Period (1848–Present)

War in 1846 between Mexico and the United States precipitated the Battle of Chino, a clash between resident Californios and Americans in the San Bernardino area. The Mexican-American War ended with the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo in 1848, ushering California into its American Period.

California officially became a state with the Compromise of 1850, which also designated Utah and New Mexico (with present-day Arizona) as U.S. Territories (Waugh 2003). Horticulture and livestock, based primarily on cattle as the currency and staple of the rancho system, continued to dominate the southern California economy through 1850s. The Gold Rush began in 1848, and with the influx of people seeking

gold, cattle were no longer desired mainly for their hides but also as a source of meat and other goods. During the 1850s cattle boom, rancho vaqueros drove large herds from southern to northern California to feed that region's burgeoning mining and commercial boom. Cattle were at first driven along major trails or roads such as the Gila Trail or Southern Overland Trail, then were transported by trains when available. The cattle boom ended for southern California as neighbor states and territories drove herds to northern California at reduced prices. Operation of the huge ranchos became increasingly difficult, and droughts severely reduced their productivity (Cleland 2005:102–103).

In 1781, a group of 11 Mexican families traveled from Mission San Gabriel Arcángel to establish a new pueblo called El Pueblo de la Reyna de Los Angeles (The Pueblo of the Queen of the Angels). This settlement consisted of a small group of adobe-brick houses and streets and would eventually be known as the Ciudad de Los Angeles (City of Angels), which incorporated on April 4, 1850, only two years after the Mexican-American War and five months prior to California achieving statehood. Settlement of the Los Angeles region continued in the early American Period. The County of Los Angeles was established on February 18, 1850, one of 27 counties established in the months prior to California acquiring official statehood in the United States. Many of the ranchos in the area now known as Los Angeles County remained intact after the United States took possession of California; however, a severe drought in the 1860s resulted in many of the ranchos being sold or otherwise acquired by Americans. Most of these ranchos were subdivided into agricultural parcels or towns (Dumke 1944). Nonetheless, ranching retained its importance, and by the late 1860s, Los Angeles was one of the top dairy production centers in the country (Rolle 2003). By 1876, Los Angeles County reportedly had a population of 30,000 persons (Dumke 1944).

Los Angeles maintained its role as a regional business center and the development of citriculture in the late 1800s and early 1900s further strengthened this status (Caughey and Caughey 1977). These factors, combined with the expansion of port facilities and railroads throughout the region, contributed to the impact of the real estate boom of the 1880s on Los Angeles (Caughey and Caughey 1977; Dumke 1944).

By the late 1800s, government leaders recognized the need for water to sustain the growing population in the Los Angeles area. Irish immigrant William Mulholland personified the city's efforts for a stable water supply (Dumke 1944; Nadeau 1997). By 1913, the City of Los Angeles had purchased large tracts of land in the Owens Valley and Mulholland planned and completed the construction of the 240-mile aqueduct that brought the valley's water to the city (Nadeau 1997). A portion of the aqueduct runs north-south approximately one mile west of the project area.

Los Angeles continued to grow in the twentieth century, in part due to the discovery of oil in the area and its strategic location as a wartime port. The county's mild climate and successful economy continued to draw new residents in the late 1900s, with much of the county transformed from ranches and farms into residential subdivisions surrounding commercial and industrial centers. Hollywood's development into the entertainment capital of the world and southern California's booming aerospace industry were key factors in the county's growth in the twentieth century.

Santa Clarita

The Santa Clarita Valley was along the route of the first land-based expedition known as the Sacred Expedition, that traversed the region and was led by Captain Gaspar de Portolà in 1768 (Rawls & Bean 2003). The Sacred Expedition began the Early Spanish Period and brought the establishment of many of the California Missions, including the San Fernando Mission to the area. The San Fernando Mission is approximately 20 miles south from the project site; it was founded in 1797 by Father Fermin Francisco de Lasuen. The Mission of San Fernando acquired the entire headwater area of the Santa Clara River. The project area was within the San Fernando Mission land allocation. The land associated with the Mission was leased in 1845 to Andres Pico, the brother of Governor Pío Pico. In 1846, the Rancho Ex-Mission de

San Fernando was sold to Eugenio de Celis, in order to obtain money to defend California against the Americans (Hoover 2002).

One of the most notable historic aspects of the surrounding area is the first discovery of gold in California in 1842. The discovery was made in Placerita Canyon, which is located approximately eight miles south of the project site. The discovery was made by Francisco Lopez (Hoover 2002). That same year, Abel Sterns sent the first gold from the Placerita Canyon mines to the U.S. Mint at Philadelphia. For many years after, the mine produced gold flakes and nuggets and continued to be prosperous for some time.

The Santa Clarita Valley, mainly comprising the communities of Saugus, Valencia, and Newhall, remained rural through out the early to mid-twentieth century. The Santa Clarita Valley made the news in 1928 when the San Francisquito Dam, located approximately six miles west of the project area, burst and caused the state's worst disaster since the San Francisco Fire in 1906. The Saint Francis Dam Disaster, as it was known, killed 470 people as they slept (Worden 1997). The disaster broke William Mulholland's spirit, and he never recovered from it (Mulholland 2000:328).

The City of Santa Clarita incorporated in 1987 (City of Santa Clarita 2010). Over the past 20 years, the Santa Clarita Valley has experienced a large population growth due to the region's close proximity to Los Angeles, resulting in the introduction of many new housing tracts in the valley. This growth is directly related to the need for affordable housing that's close enough to Los Angeles proper to enable people to live somewhat near where they work. The proposed park site was part of the Haskell Canyon Subdivision (Tentative Tract Map 47657), which was constructed in 2002.

BACKGROUND RESEARCH

LITERATURE SEARCH

On January 19, 2010, SWCA Cultural Resources Project Manager Caprice D. (Kip) Harper conducted a search of the California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS) at the South Central Coastal Information Center (SCCIC), located at California State University, Fullerton. The search included any previously recorded cultural resources and investigations within a 1-mile radius of the project area. The CHRIS search also included a review of the NRHP, the CRHR, the California Points of Historical Interest (CPHI) list, the California Historical Landmarks (CHL) list, the Archaeological Determinations of Eligibility (ADOE) list, the California State Historic Resources Inventory (HRI) list, and the City of Los Angeles Historic—Cultural Monuments list. SWCA also reviewed pertinent portions of historic USGS Santa Susana, California 15-minute quadrangles (1903, reprinted in 1908 and 1948; and 1941), as well as the USGS San Fernando, California 15-minute quadrangle (1900, reprinted in 1929; and 1940).

Previous Cultural Resources Studies within 1 Mile of the Project Area

Thirteen cultural resources studies have been previously conducted within one mile of the project area (Table 1). Two of these studies were conducted within portions or the entire project area. A complete bibliography is provided in Appendix A.

Table 1. Previously Conducted Cultural Resources Studies within 1 Mile of the Project Area

SCCIC Report Number	Study	Author	Year	Proximity to Project Area
LA-419	An Archaeological Resource Survey and Impact Assessment of Tract No. 33192, Los Angeles County, California	Clewlow, W.	1978	Outside
LA-1114	Assessment of the Archaeological Impact by the Proposed Development of Tract No. 32615 in Valencia, California		1976	Outside
LA-2775	Cultural Resources Survey and Impact Assessment for Vesting Tentative Tract Map No. 46757, Haskell Canyon, Los Angeles County, California Singer, C., et al.		1992	In
LA-3105	Archaeological Survey and Impact Assessment of Tentative Tract No. 51789, an 80-Acre Parcel in Haskell Canyon, Santa Clarita, Los Angeles County, California	Tract No. 51789, an 80-Acre Parcel in anyon, Santa Clarita, Los Angeles		Outside
LA-3690	Cultural Resources Evaluation City of Santa Clarita Circulation Element EIR Wlodarski, R.		1997	In
LA-4104	Cultural Resource Evaluation of the LADWP Power Plant 1-Olive Line 1 Transmission Line Maintenance Project, Los Angeles County, California	ver Plant 1-Olive Line 1 Transmission Line ntenance Project, Los Angeles County, Macko, M.		Outside
LA-5523	Archaeological Test Excavations at CA-LAN-2245 and CA-LAn-2246, Located in the Haskell Canyon Area of Los Angeles County, California	McKenna, J.	2000	Outside
LA-8993	SCE Tehachapi Renewable Transmission Project, Shoofly Corridor, Santa Clarita Area, Los Angeles County, California	Schmidt, J.	2007	Outside
LA-9171	Cultural Resources Records Search and Site Visit Results for T-Mobile Candidate SV00660B (Sprint Cohap Catala), 25790 Catala Avenue, Santa Clarita, Los Angeles County, California		2007	Outside
LA-9764	Supplemental Archaeological Assessment, Antelope to Pardee Segment 1 (Tehachapi Renewable Transmission Project), Variance 5, Los Angeles County, California		2008	Outside
LA-9866	Cultural Resources Records Search and Site Visit Results for T-Mobile Candidate SV01537T (Copper Hill Site), Santa Clarita, CA	te Visit Bonner, W.		Outside
LA-9920	Results of the Class III Cultural Resources Investigation for the Southern California Edison Tehachapi Renewable Transmission Project (TRTP) Segment 1, Angeles National Forest and Adjacent Lands, Los Angeles County, California AAR No. 05-01-01079	Schmidt, J., et al.	2008	Outside
LA-10205	Archaeological Investigation for Meadow Peak Project, Vesting Tentative Tract Map 47760	Messick, P.	2003	Outside

Previously Recorded Cultural Resources within 1 Mile of the Project Area

Seven cultural resources have been previously recorded within 1 mile of the project area, none of which are in the project area. The closest resource is the Los Angeles Aqueduct Transmission Line/Olive-Power Plant 1-Transmission Line (built in 1917) which is located less than 500 feet to the west of the project location. The remaining resources include the Los Angeles Aqueduct (built in 1913), a historic-period hog farm/ranch (built prior to 1945), a historic-period building foundation (built prior to 1952), a prehistoric rock shelter, and two prehistoric yucca or roasting pits. No listed properties in the NRHP, CRHR, CPHI, CHL, ADOE, or HRI are within the boundaries of the project area.

Table 2. Previously Recorded Cultural Resources within a 1-Mile Radius of Project Area

Trinomial	Primary Number	Resource Description	NRHP Eligibility Recommendation	Recorded by and Year	Proximity to Project Area
CA-LAN-295	P-19-000295	Prehistoric: small rock shelter	Unknown	Ridell 1963	Outside
CA-LAN-2105H (also CA-INY-4591)	P-19-002105	Historic: Los Angeles Aqueduct	Unknown	Cole et al. 1992; Moreno and Tsunoda 2007; Costello et al. 1992	Outside
CA-LAN-2132H	P-19-002132	Historic: Los Angeles Aqueduct Transmission Line/ Olive-Power Plant 1- Transmission Line	Unknown	Cole et al. 1992; Macko 1993; Moreno and Tsunoda 2007	Outside
CA-LAN-2245	P-19-002245	Prehistoric: yucca or roasting pit	Unknown	Dillon 1994	Outside
CA-LAN-2246	P-19-002246	Prehistoric: yucca or roasting pit	Unknown	Dillon 1994	Outside
CA-LAN-3131	P-19-003131	Historic: Hog farm, ranch corral, and trash deposit	Unknown	Messick 2003	Outside
CA-LAN-3132	P-19-003132	Historic: concrete floor and foundation remains	Unknown	Messick 2003	Outside

Historic Maps

SWCA examined the project area on several historic Newhall (previously called Santa Susana) quadrangle maps at the SCCIC at California State University, Fullerton. The 1903 USGS Santa Susana quadrangle map shows that the project area is mostly undeveloped. The map only shows trails and dispersed buildings. The closest buildings are located one-half mile to the east and southeast. The 1943 USGS Santa Susana quadrangle map shows more development including buildings and roads. By 1974, the USGS Newhall quadrangle map shows a housing development to the south approximately one-third of a mile from the project site. The 1988 USGS Newhall quadrangle map shows residential development to the south and east of the project site, and by 1995 development has increased throughout the majority of the area.

SACRED LANDS FILE SEARCH AND NATIVE AMERICAN COORDINATION

SWCA initiated Native American coordination for the project on January 21, 2010. SWCA contacted the NAHC to request a review of the Sacred Lands File to determine if cultural resources important to the Native Americans have been recorded within the project area. SWCA also requested a list of Native American groups or individuals who may provide additional information concerning the project area (Appendix B). The NAHC responded on January 25, 2009, and stated that the search did not indicate the presence of Native American sacred lands or traditional cultural properties within the immediate project area. However, it was noted that Native American cultural resources are close to the proposed project area.

The NAHC provided a list of 10 Native American contacts for the project who may have knowledge of cultural resources in the project vicinity. SWCA prepared and mailed letters to each of the NAHC-listed contacts on February 2, 2010, requesting information related any Native American cultural resources within or immediately adjacent to the project area. On February 17, 2010, William Gonzalez of the Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians responded to our inquiry. Mr. Gonzalez stated the following:

After careful review of the information you provided, the Tribe has concluded that there is concern [that] cultural resources may be impacted during the course of soil disturbance. The area of the proposed project site is considered sensitive [for] Native American Cultural Resources, as numerous archaeological sites have been documented in the surrounding areas. These areas were used for habitation, hunting, occupational sites, religious worship and burials. Given the potential for disturbance, the Tribe requests monitoring during project operation.

To date, SWCA has not received any additional responses to the letters that were sent to the NAHC-listed contacts. No additional follow-up contact has been made.

METHODS

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY

SWCA Cultural Resources Specialist John Covert conducted an intensive-level pedestrian survey of the project area on January 26, 2010. The intensive survey included the 8-acre site located at 21380 Copper Hill Drive (APN 3244-151-900). The interior of the project site has been cleared and graded. The perimeter of the site has terraced and planted slopes. The area surrounding the project area consists of residential housing, with the exception of the southernmost portion, which has remained in its natural state.

Intensive-level survey methods consisted of a pedestrian survey in parallel transects spaced 10 meters apart over the entire parcel. Within each transect, the archaeologist examined the ground surface for artifacts (e.g., flaked stone tools, tool-making debris, stone milling tools, ceramics, fire-affected rock [FAR]), soil discoloration that might indicate the presence of a cultural midden, soil depressions, and features indicative of the current or former presence of structures or buildings (e.g., standing exterior walls, postholes, foundations) or historic debris (e.g., metal, glass, ceramics). Ground disturbances such as burrows, cut banks, and drainages were visually inspected.

Visibility was good, 70 percent or more, due in part to surface clearing by grading activity. Areas with poor visibility, 20 percent or less, had mostly been disturbed by landscaping activity. Photographs were taken of the survey area using a Nikon Coolpix L20 digital camera, with 10 megapixels and 3.6 optical

zoom. All field notes, photographs, and records related to the current study are on file at the SWCA South Pasadena, California, office.

RESULTS AND IMPACT CONSIDERATIONS

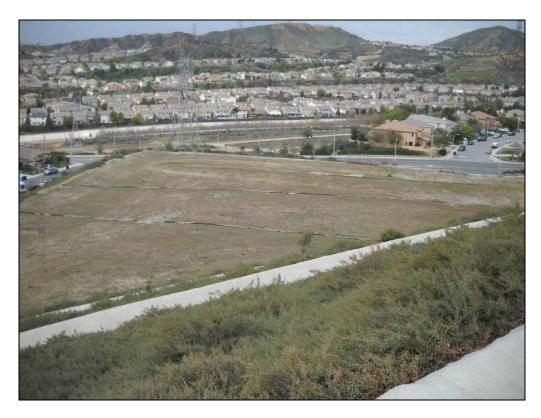
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY

No cultural resources (archaeological or built environment) were observed during the intensive-level pedestrian survey of the project area. Visibility was good throughout the majority of the project area, with the only poor areas of visibility being along the landscaped slopes that bounded the project area (Photographs 1-4). The parcel had been thoroughly graded and is quite disturbed (Photograph 5). Some modern trash was observed, including glass and plastic shards. There is virtually no native soil to observe in the project area. The only area where native soil was observed is in the southwestern corner of the project area; this area was fenced off to prevent the disturbance of two medium-sized oak trees (Photograph 6). The ground visibility within this area is very poor, less than 5 percent, because of organic litter on the surface.

According to the results of the preliminary geotechnical report, the project area typically consists of fine to coarse clayey sand with gravel. Fill soils were encountered to a depth of 2 feet in the two boring tests in the western and southwestern portions of the project area, and additional fill soils deeper than 2 feet are anticipated at other locations within the site (T.K. Engineering Corp 2008:3). This indicates that there is a low potential for encountering undisturbed subsurface archaeological materials within the top 2 feet of soil due to extensive previous disturbances. In addition, no archaeological or built environment resources were observed during the reconnaissance-level field survey. Therefore, the proposed project area has low sensitivity for encountering belowground archaeological resources. No impacts to historical resources would result from the proposed project.



Photograph 1. Overview of project area, view to the west.



Photograph 2. Overview project area, view to the northwest.



Photograph 3. Overview of project area, view to the west.



Photograph 4. Overview of project area, view to the southeast.



Photograph 5. Graded area within the center of the project area, view to the north.



Photograph 6. Fenced area containing native soil and oak trees, view to the west.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Because no "historical resources" as defined in CEQA were identified within the proposed project area, no additional cultural resources mitigation measures should be necessary beyond those identified herein and in the CEQA document. Standard archaeological mitigation measures to minimize impacts to unanticipated discovery of belowground cultural resources or the unanticipated discovery of human remains are described below.

UNANTICIPATED DISCOVERY OF CULTURAL RESOURCES

In the event that cultural resources are exposed during construction, work in the immediate vicinity of the find must stop until a qualified archaeologist can evaluate the significance of the find. Construction activities may continue in other areas. If the discovery proves significant under CEQA, additional work such as testing or data recovery may be warranted.

UNANTICIPATED DISCOVERY OF HUMAN REMAINS

The discovery of human remains is always a possibility during ground disturbances; State of California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 covers these findings. This code section states that no further disturbance shall occur until the Los Angeles County Coroner has made a determination of origin and disposition pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 5097.98. The County Coroner must be notified of the find immediately. If the human remains are determined to be prehistoric, the Coroner will notify the NAHC, which will determine and notify an MLD. The MLD shall complete the inspection of the site within 48 hours of notification and may recommend scientific removal and nondestructive analysis of human remains and items associated with Native American burials.

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       Year: 1976
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     Quads: MINT CANYON, NEWHALL
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APPENDIX B: Native American Correspondence

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

<u> Arnold Schwarzenegger, G*overnor*</u>

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION

915 CAPITOL MALL, ROOM 984
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814
(916) 653-6251
Fex (916) 657-5890
Web Site www.nahc.ca.goy
ds_nahc@pacbell.net



January 25, 2010

Ms. Caprice 'Kip' Harper, Project Manager, Cultural Resources

SWCA ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

620 Fair Oaks Avenue, Suite 180 South Pasadena, CA 91030

Sent by FAX to: 626-240-0607

Number of pages: 4

Re: Request for a Sacred Lands File Search and Native American Contacts List for a Proposed "Cultural Resources Services for the Copper Hill Park Project": located in the Santa Clarita; Los Angeles County, California

Dear Ms. Harper:

The Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC), the State of California Trustee Agency' for the protection and preservation of Native American cultural resources (c.f. CA Public Resources Code §21070; also c.f. Environmental Protection Information Center v. Johnson (1985) 170 Cal App. 3rd 604), was able to perform a record search of its Sacred Lands File (SLF) for the affected project area (APE) requested. The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA; CA Public Resources Code Section 21000 – 21177)) requires that any project that causes a substantial adverse change in the significance of an historical resource, that includes archaeological resources, is a 'significant effect' requiring the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) per the California Code of Regulations §15064.5(b)(c)(f) CEQA guidelines). Section 15382 of the 2007 CEQA Guidelines defines a significant impact on the environment as "a substantial, or potentially substantial, adverse change in any of physical conditions within an area affected by the proposed project, including ... objects of historic or aesthetic significance." The NAHC SLF search did not indicate the presence of Native American cultural resources within one-half - mile radius of the proposed project site (APE).

This letter includes state and federal statutes relating to Native American historic properties of religious and cultural significance to American Indian tribes and interested Native American individuals as 'consulting parties' under both state and federal law.

Early consultation with Native American tribes in your area is the best way to avoid unanticipated discoveries once a project is underway. Enclosed are the names of the nearest tribes and interested Native American individuals that the NAHC recommends as 'consulting parties,' for this purpose, that may have knowledge of the religious and cultural significance of the historic properties in the project area (e.g. APE). We recommend that you contact persons on the attached list of Native American contacts. Furthermore we suggest that you contact the California Historic Resources Information System (CHRIS) at the Office of Historic Preservation Coordinator's office (at (916) 653-7278, for referral to the nearest Information Center of which there are 10.

Consultation with tribes and interested Native American consulting parties, on the NAHC list ,should be conducted in compliance with the requirements of federal NEPA (42 U.S.C. 4321-43351) and Section 106 and 4(f) of federal NHPA (16 U.S.C. 470 [f)]et seq), 36 CFR Part 800.3 (f) (2), the President's Council on Environmental Quality (CSQ; 42 U.S.C. 4371 et seq) and NAGPRA (25 U.S.C. 3001-3013), as appropriate.

Lead agencies should consider a<u>voidance</u>, as defined in Section 15370 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) when significant cultural resources could be affected by a

project. Also, Public Resources Code Section 5097.98 and Health & Safety Code Section 7050.5 provide for provisions for accidentally discovered archeological resources during construction and mandate the processes to be followed in the event of an accidental discovery of any human remains in a project location other than a 'dedicated cemetery. Discussion of these should be included in your environmental documents, as appropriate.

The response to this search for Native American cultural resources is conducted in the NAHC Sacred Lands Inventory, established by the California Legislature (CA Public Resources Code §5097.94(a) and is exempt from the CA Public Records Act (c.f. California Government Code §6254.10) although Native Americans on the attached contact list may wish to reveal the nature of identified cultural resources/historic properties. Confidentiality of "historic properties of religious and cultural significance' may also be protected the under Section 304 of the NHPA or at the Secretary of the Interior' discretion if not eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. The Secretary may also be advised by the federal Indian Religious Freedom Act (cf. 42 U.S.C, 1996) in issuing a decision on whether or not to disclose items of religious and/or cultural significance identified in or near the APE and possibly threatened by proposed project activity.

If you have any questions about this response to your request, please do not hesitate to contact me at (916) 653-6251.

Dave Singleton

Program Analyst

Attachment: Native American Contacts List (NOTE: we further recommend that other forms of 'proof of mailing or proof of contact be utilized instead of 'Return Receipt Requested' Certified or Registered Mail.) Further, we suggest a follow-up telephone call to the contacts if the replies are not received or need clarification.

Native American Contacts Los Angeles County January 25, 2010

Charles Cooke

32835 Santiago Road

Acton

CA 93510

Chumash

Tataviam

(661) 733-1812 - cell suscol@intox.net

Fernandeno

Kitanemuk

(213) 351-5324

(213) 386-3995 FAX

Ron Andrade, Director

3175 West 6th Street, Rm.

Los Angeles , CA 90020

randrade@css.lacounty.gov

Beverly Salazar Folkes

1931 Shadybrook Drive Thousand Oaks, CA 91362

805 492-7255

(805) 558-1154 - cell folkes9@msn.com

Chumash

Ferrnandeño

Tataviam

Tongva Ancestral Territorial Tribal Nation John Tommy Rosas, Tribal Admin.

LA City/County Native American Indian Comm

tattnlaw@gmail.com

310-570-6567

San Manuel Band of Mission Indians James Ramos, Chairperson 26569 Community Center Drive Serrano

, CA 92346 Highland

(909) 864-8933

(909) 864-3724 - FAX

(909) 864-3370 Fax

Kitanemuk & Yowlumne Teion Indians

Delia Dominguez

981 N. Virginia

Covina

Yowlumne , CA 91722 Kitanemuk

(626) 339-6785

Fernandeno Tataviam Band of Mission Indians

William Gonzales, Cultural/Environ Depart

601 South Brand Boulevard, Suite 102 Fernandeno San Fernando CA 91340 Tataviam

rortega@tataviam-nsn.us

(818) 837-0794 Office

(818) 581-9293 Cell

(818) 837-0796 Fax

San Fernando Band of Mission Indians John Valenzuela, Chairperson

P.O. Box 221838

Newhall , CA 91322

tsen2u@live.com

(661) 753-9833 Office

(760) 885-0955 Cell

Fernandeño

Gabrielino Tongva

Tataviam

Serrano Vanyume

Kitanemuk

(760) 949-1604 Fax

This list is current only as of the date of this document.

Distribution of this list does not relieve any person of statutory responsibility as defined in Section 7050.5 of the Health and Safety Code, Section 5097.94 of the Public Resources Code and Section 5097.98 of the Public Resources Code. Also, federal National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106, and federal NAGPRA.

This list is only applicable for contacting local Native Americans with regard to cultural resources for the proposed Cultural Resources Services for the Copper Hill Park Project; City of Santa Clarita; Los Angeles County, California" for which a Sacred Lands File search and Native American Contacts list were requested.

Native American Contacts Los Angeles County January 25, 2010

Randy Guzman - Folkes 655 Los Angeles Avenue, Unit E Moorpark , CA 93021 ndnRandy@gmail.com (805) 905-1675 - cell

Chumash Fernandeño Tataviam Shoshone Paiute Yaqui

San Manuel Band of Mission Indians
Ann Brierty, Policy/Cultural Resources Departmen
26569 Community Center. Drive Serrano
Highland , CA 92346
abrierty@sanmanuel-nsn.
(909) 864-8933 EXT-3250
(909) 649-1585 - cell
(909) 862-5152 Fax

This list is current only as of the date of this document.

Distribution of this list does not relieve any person of statutory responsibility as defined in Section 7050.5 of the Health and Safety Code, Section 5097.94 of the Public Resources Code and Section 5097.98 of the Public Resources Code. Also, federal National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106, and federal NAGPRA.

This list is only applicable for contacting local Native Americans with regard to cultural resources for the proposed Cultural Resources Services for the Copper Hill Park Project; City of Santa Clarita; Los Angeles County, California® for which a Sacred Lands File search and Native American Contacts list were requested.



Pasadena Office 625 Fair Oaks Avenue, Suite 190 South Pasadena, CA 91030 Tel 626.240.0587 Fax 626.240.0607 www.swca.com

February 2, 2010

Beverly Salazar Folkes 1931 Shadybrook Drive Thousand Oaks, CA 91362 Sent Via U.S. Mail

RE: Copper Hill Park Project, 21380 Copper Hill Drive, Santa Clarita, California

Dear Ms. Folkes:

SWCA Environmental Consultants has been retained to conduct a cultural resources survey for the Copper Hill Park Project in the community of Santa Clarita in an unincorporated portion of Los Angeles County, California. As part of the process of identifying cultural resources issues for this project, the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) was contacted by SWCA to conduct a Sacred Lands File search and to provide a list of Native American individuals and/or tribal organizations that may have knowledge of cultural resources in or near the project area. The NAHC search failed to indicate the presence of Native American cultural resources in the immediate vicinity of the project area, but did recommend that we consult with you directly regarding your knowledge of the presence of cultural resources that may be impacted by this project.

The project includes the development of a 4.2-acre park at 21380 Copper Hill Drive at the intersection of Copper Hill Drive and Deer Spring Drive in the community of Santa Clarita, in unincorporated Los Angeles County. The project area is situated in Township 4 North, Range 16 West in Section 1 of the Newhall, California 7.5' U.S. Geological Survey Quadrangle (see enclosed map).

If you have any knowledge of cultural resources that may exist within or near the project area and wish to have your concerns considered, please contact Caprice (Kip) Harper in writing at the above address, via fax (626-240-0607), or via e-mail (kharper@swca.com) at your earliest convenience. You may also call (626-240-0587) with any questions. Thank you for your assistance.

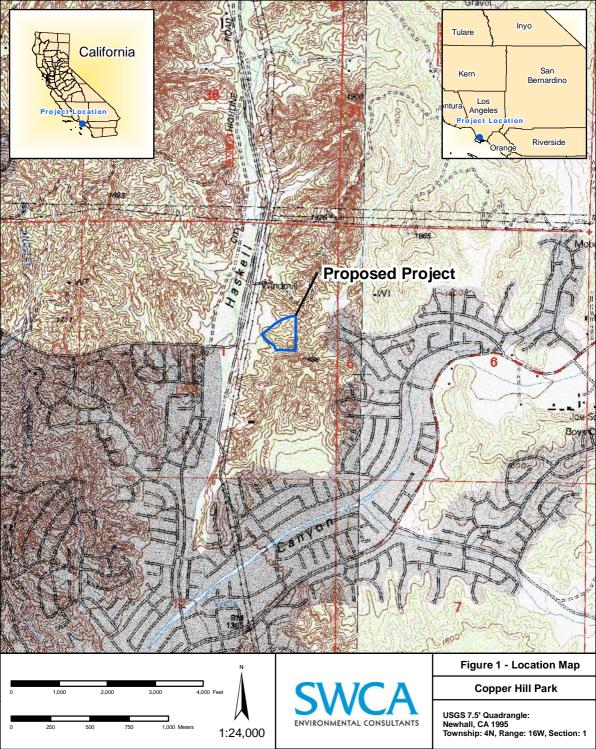
This consultation is project-specific and is not intended to constitute as SB 18 consultation, should that be required for this project.

Sincerely,

Kip Harper

Caprice D. (Kip) Harper, M.A., RPA Project Manager – Cultural Resources

Enclosures: Project Location Map





Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians

Tribal Historic & Cultural Preservation

February 17, 2010

Caprice Harper, Project Manager SWCA Environmental Consultations 625 Fair Oaks Avenue, Suite 190 South Pasadena, CA 91030

Re: Copper Hill Park Project, 21380 Copper Hill Drive, Santa Clarita, California

Dear Ms. Harper,

We appreciate the opportunity to be able to provide comments on the proposed Copper Hill Park Project. The Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians (Tribe) is a California Native American Indian government in northern Los Angeles County. The State of California trustee agency for Native American Cultural Resources, the Native American Heritage Commission, designated the Tribe as the local trustee agency within Northern Los Angeles County by limits of its tribal historic boundaries. The Tribe fully engages, to the extent of the respected governing laws, to protect and maintain all historic and cultural sites in which the Tribe may have interest.

After careful review of the information you provided, the Tribe has concluded that there is concern of cultural resources may be impacted during the course of soil disturbance. The area of the proposed project site is considered sensitive of Native American Cultural Resources, as numerous archaeological sites have been documented in the surrounding areas. These areas were used for habitation, hunting, occupational sites, religious worship and burials. Given the potential for disturbance, the Tribe requests that the project formally proceed with tribal consultation and proposes to provide tribal monitoring during project operation. Should you have any questions, please contact Nicole Johnson, Director of Public Affairs at njohnson@tataviam-nsn.us.

Sincerely.

William Gonzales

THCP Committee Chairman

APPENDIX B PRELIMINARY SOILS ENGINEERING INVESTIGATION REPORT

T. K. ENGINEERING CORP.

Geotechnical & Environmental Consultants 3565 Lexington Avenue El Monte, California 91731 (626)575-2856 Fax (626)575-1582

PRELIMINARY SOILS ENGINEERING INVESTIGATION REPORT

Proposed Parking Lot, Walkways Gazebo, Basket Ball Court, & Restroom Copper Hill Park Santa Clarita, California

Our Job No. 07-212F

January 4, 2008

Prepared For

Cornerstone Studios, Inc.

Attn: Mr. Don Wilson

T. K. ENGINEERING CORP.

Geotechnical & Environmental Consultants 3565 Lexington Avenue El Monte, California 91731 (626)575-2856 Fax (626)575-1582

January 4, 2008

(TKE Job No. 07-211F)

Cornerstone Studios, Inc. 106 W. 4th Street, 5th Floor Santa Ana, Ca 92701

Attn.: Mr. Don Wilson

Subject:

PRELIMINARY SOILS ENGINEERING INVESTIGATION

Proposed Parking Lot, Walkways, Gazebo, Basket Ball Court

And Restroom Copper Hill Park

Santa Clarita, California

Dear Mr. Wilson:

We are pleased to submit the Preliminary Soils Engineering Investigation Report herein for the proposed parking lot, walkways, gazebo, basket ball court, and restroom at the subject site.

This study was performed in accordance with our proposal dated September 27, 2007 and accepted by you. A preliminary evaluation of the subsurface conditions was made with respect to the proposed structures. The results of our studies indicate that the site is suitable for the proposed development from a geotechnical engineer's standpoint if the recommendations presented in this report are incorporated in its design and construction.

Thank you for the opportunity to be of service on this project. Please contact the undersigned, if there is any question concerning this report.

Respectfully submitted,

T.K. ENGINEERING CORP.

Wan-Lain (Allan) Tsai, RGE 212

Principal

cc: (5) copies: Addressee

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Job No. 07-211F

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SCOPE OF WORK

This report presents the results of a preliminary soils engineering investigation for the proposed parking lot, walkways, gazebo, basket ball court, and restroom over the existing grade at the subject site. Plate A-1 shows the approximate locations of the test borings.

The scope of work was based on the preliminary project information made available to us and was conducted in accordance with generally accepted geotechnical practice.

This investigation was authorized to determine the static and physical characteristics of the soils beneath the site for design purpose. The scope of services provided during this investigation includes the following:

- Review of our previous soils engineering reports for the vicinity of subject site.
- Geotechnical reconnaissance of the existing site conditions.
- Drilling, logging, and sampling of five (5) test borings at the subject property.
- Laboratory testing of the representative samples of on-site earth materials to determine their properties.
- Review and engineering analysis of the tested data with respect to the proposed structures.
- · Preparation of this report.

The results of the field exploration and laboratory tests, which form the basis of our recommendations, are presented in the attached Appendices and Plates.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Based on the information and site plan provided by the client, the proposed development will consist of a basket ball court, a restroom building, a parking lot, and a picnic area. It is anticipated that the proposed building will be a light loaded wood frame structure with stucco walls.

No grading plan is available for review at this time. It is recommended when the grading plans become available, they be forwarded to our office for review and comment prior to grading. The geotechnical recommendations presented in this report may be revised upon the review of grading plans. However, based on the existing site condition, it is anticipated that some grade changes will be needed in order to facilitate the surface drainage.

Information for design loads of the proposed building is not available at this time. However, for the purpose of this report, the column and wall loads are assumed not to exceed 5 kips and 1.0 kips per lineal foot, respectively.

SITE CONDITIONS

The subject site is located on the intersection of Copper Hill Drive and Deer Spring Drive, in the City of Santa Clarita area, California. It is bound by an ascending slope on the east and south. On the west, it is bound by a descending slope.

The property is an irregular shape lot. At the time of our investigation, the site was vacant,

but contained some vegetation, bush, few trees, many sand bags, and some concrete rubble and debris. Topographically, the north central portion of the site is approximately 5 to 15 feet lower than the remainder area and the south portion of the site is relatively level.

FIELD AND LABORATORY INVESTIGATION

Field exploration was performed on December 8, 2007. Five (5) test borings were drilled to depths of 5 feet to 10 feet below the existing ground surface. Approximate locations of the borings are shown on the Plate A-1. Subsurface conditions encountered in the exploration are presented in the log of test borings (Plates B-1 to B-5).

Selected samples obtained during field exploration were tested in the laboratory. A description of the field exploration and laboratory testing are presented in the attached Appendix A. The results are presented in the attached Plates.

SUBSURFACE CONDITIONS

The native soils encountered in the test borings consist generally of fine to coarse clayey sand with gravel. Fill soils were encountered in Boring #4 and #5 to a depth of 2 feet. However, based on the existing site conditions, fill soils deeper than 2 feet shall be anticipated at the other locations within the site. Ground water was not encountered in any of the test borings.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

<u>General</u>

The information obtained during our investigation indicated that the subject site is suitable for the proposed development provided that the following recommendations are incorporated in the design, and in the job specifications, and implemented during the construction. It shall be noted that the recommendations contained herein are intended to serve as guidelines to provide the project design consultants with preliminary design parameters.

Prior to construction, the grading and foundation plans shall be reviewed by the Soil Engineer so that such plans will comply with our recommendations. Any need for additional investigatory work or revised recommendations will be given at that time.

Mandatory 111 Statement

Based on the results of investigation, it is concluded that the proposed building site will be safe from settlement, land sliding, or slippage, provided all structure design and grading operation are conducted in accordance with our recommendations and constraints of the applicable sections of the county building code. It is also our opinion that the proposed construction will not adversely affect upon adjoining properties.

Site Preparation

Site preparation measures shall include the complete removal of existing sand bags, concrete rubble, trees, vegetation, and debris. The removal of trees shall include the root

balls, and resultant cavities shall be cleaned of loose soils and compacted/rolled to a firm unyielding surface prior to backfilling.

To provide an adequate support for proposed structures, we recommend the fill and upper loose/soft native soils within the proposed structure areas be removed and recompacted as engineered fill. Fill soils were encountered in test boring #4 and #5 to a depth of 2 feet. However, fill soils deeper than 2 feet shall be anticipated at the other location within the site.

The removal and recompaction of existing soils shall extend to a minimum depth of three (3) feet below the existing grade or one (1) foot below the bottom of footing, whichever is greater. Two feet of removal and recompaction are recommended for proposed parking lot, walkways, and basket ball court areas. However, if the fill is encountered, all the encountered fill shall be removed and recompacted to a minimum of 90% relative compaction and 95% relative compaction for concrete walkway and basket ball court areas.

Bottom of excavation shall be observed by a soil engineer or his representative prior to bottom processing and placement of any compacted fill. The removal and recompaction shall extend at least 5 feet beyond the structure perimeters wherever is practical. Deeper removal and recompaction will be required if local fill, soft or loose soils, and saturated soil conditions are encountered.

The excavated on-site soils may be reused as engineered fill provided they are free of organic and deleterious substances. Soils imported from off-site sources shall be nonexpansive or similar to on-site soils and be approved by the Soil Engineer or his representative prior to placement.

The upper 6 to 8 inches of excavation bottom shall be scarified, brought to near optimum moisture content, and properly compacted to at least 90% relative compaction. Placement of compacted fill shall be performed under the observation and testing of the Soil Engineer or his representative.

All site grading shall comply with the applicable portion of the Los Angeles County Grading Code and the General Specifications attached in Appendix B.

Foundation

After the completion of site preparation, conventional spread and continuous footings may be used to support the proposed building/structure. All footings shall be placed into the compacted fill to a minimum depth of 12 inches for 1-story building and 18 inches for 2-story building. All footings shall be reinforced with a minimum of four rebar #4, placed two near the top and two near the bottom.

For design purpose, a bearing value of 1300 pounds per square foot may be used for conventional footings. The bearing value may be increased by 33% for wind or seismic loads.

Foundation Settlement

Settlement of the foundation placed as recommended and subject to no more than

allowable loads is not expected to exceed one inch. Differential settlement between

adjacent columns is not anticipated to exceed 1/2 inch.

Lateral Resistance

Resistance to lateral loads may be provided by friction acting on the base of footings and

by passive earth pressure. Coefficient of friction between the base of footings and the

competent natural soils or compacted fill may be assumed as 0.35. An allowable lateral

bearing value against the sides of footings is recommended to be 250 pounds per square

foot per foot of depth to a maximum of 2500 pounds per square foot.

Seismic Parameters

Based on the UBC's active fault map, the recommended seismic parameters are as

follows:

Soil Profile Type: So

Ca = 0.44 Na

Cv = 0.64 Nv

Na = 1.3

Nv = 1.6

Seismic Source Type: B

Temporary Excavation

Unsurcharged temporary excavations may be cut vertically up to 4 feet and sloped back at

a ratio of 1: 1 or flatter above the 4 feet. Tops of excavation shall be barricaded at least 5

feet from the cut to prevent any storage or equipment loads.

It is recommended that the current standards delineated in CAL-OSHA for safe working conditions be followed during construction.

Concrete Slab On-Grade

The top on-site soils are considered to be very low to low in expansion potential. It is recommended that the concrete slab placed on grade be at least 4 inches thick and be reinforced with rebar #3, 18-inch on centers, both ways, placed at slab mid-height. A minimum of 4-inch wash sand or gravel shall also be provided beneath the slab on-grade. Extra care shall be exercised to ensure the placement of reinforcement at the center of slab. If the reinforcement is placed at or sagged to the bottom of slab on-grade, the effect of reinforcement becomes null and unsual cracks may occur.

Where upward capillary moisture is not desired, a moisture barrier, such as vinyl membrane with a minimum thickness of 10 mils, shall be placed beneath the slab ongrade. The membrane shall be covered by 2 inches of sand to aid in uniform curing of the concrete. Care shall be taken not to puncture the membrane.

For concrete pavement parking lot, it is recommended that R-value tests be performed at the proposed rough grade. T. K. Engineering Corp. will obtain soil samples for R-value test at the time of completion for rough grading upon the client's request. For planning purpose, a minimum of 6 inches and 5 inches may be used for proposed driveway and

respectively. All the concrete slabs at the proposed driveway and parking areas shall be reinforced with at least rebar #4, 18 inches on centers, both ways. Adequate expansion joints shall also be provided in accordance with the latest guidelines published by Portland Cement Association.

Prior to construction of concrete slab on-grade, all loose soils (e.g. from footing and utility trench excavation) and/or disturbed surface soil resulted from construction activity shall be removed to firm material or properly compacted. Any additional fill placed on grade to support slab shall be properly compacted and tested for its compaction. It is recommended that the subgrade soils within the building and concrete slab on-grade areas be inspected and if necessary be tested for its compaction by the soil engineer before concrete slab is placed.

Pavement Sections

The encountered fill and top loose native soils within the proposed pavement area shall be over-excavated and recompacted to provide a minimum of 12 inches compacted subgrade. However, if the fill is deeper than one foot, all the encountered fill shall be removed and replaced by engineered fill.

Final pavement sections shall be based on the results of R-value tests performed at the completion of rough grading for subgrade. For planning purposes, an R-value of fifteen (15) has been assumed. Use of this assumed value, together with Traffic Indexes (TI) of 3.5 for parking area and 5.5 for driveway, results in the following sections;

<u>Area</u>	<u>TI</u> .	<u>GE</u>	Pavem Sections		Subgrade
Driveway	5.5	1.50	<u>AC</u> 4"	<u>AB</u> **7"	* 12"
Parking	3.5	0.95	3"	**4"	* 12"

^{*:} Compacted to at least 90% relative compaction.

Basket Ball Court

The encountered fill and top loose soils within the proposed basket ball court area and 5 feet beyond the court area shall be overexcavated to at least 2 feet below the existing grade and recompacted to a minimum of 95 % relative compaction. However, if the encountered fill is deeper than 2 feet, all the encountered fill shall be overexcavated and recompacted

to at least 95 % relative compaction.

The concrete slab for proposed basket ball court shall be at least 6 inches thick and shall be reinforced with rebar #4, 18-inch on centers, both ways. Adequate expansion joints and weak planes shall also be provided in accordance with the latest guidelines published by Portland Cement Association.

Utility Trenches

Trenches shall be located so as not to impair the bearing capacity or settlement under foundations. As a guide, trenches parallel to foundations shall be clear of a 45-degree

^{**:} Compacted to at least 95% relative compaction.

that all utility trench backfills within the proposed building and concrete slab on-grade areas be compacted to at least 90% relative compaction. However, the utility trench backfills within the basket ball court area shall be compacted to at least 95% relative compaction.

Drainage

Adequate drainage system shall be provided and designed by a civil engineer. In no case shall water be allowed to pond within the proposed improvement areas including basket ball court. All drainage shall be directed away from the foundation areas toward the approved drainage devices.

Construction Observation and Testing

As a necessary requisite to the use of this report, the following construction stages shall be observed and/or tested by a representative of this facility:

- Placement and compaction of fill within the structure, walkway, basket ball court, and parking lot areas;
- 2. Placement and compaction of utility trench backfills;
- 3. Bottom of excavation prior to placement of compacted fill;
- 4. Foundation excavation prior to forming and pouring;
- The structure subgrade prior to placement of moisture barrier and reinforcement;
 and
- 6. Temporary excavation.

If T.K. Engineering Corp. is not allowed to perform sufficient observations and adequate testing during construction, a statement regarding suitability and stability of the project can not be made accordingly.

It is recommended that a joint meeting among the client, contractor, and the Soil Engineer be held at least 2 days in advance of the commencement of construction to discuss specific procedures and scheduling.

REMARKS

This report is prepared based upon the proposed project as described, observation and findings during field investigation, and evaluation of the test results. The conclusions and recommendations are based upon the assumption that soil conditions do not deviate significantly from those described herein. If variations from our findings or undesirable conditions are found during construction, or if the proposed construction differs from that presently planned, T.K. Engineering Corp. shall be notified so that supplemental recommendations can be given.

This report is issued with the understanding that it is the responsibility of the client to transmit the information and recommendations of this report to developers, owners, buyers, Architects, Engineers, and Designers for the project so that the necessary steps can be taken by the Contractors and Subcontractors to carry out such recommendations in the field. The conclusions and recommendations contained in this report are solely

professional opinions derived in accordance with current standards of professional practice.

This report has been prepared in accordance with generally accepted engineering practice and no warranty is expressed or implied. All exploratory borings or pits used for subsurface exploration were backfilled with reasonable effort to restore the areas to their original condition. As with any backfill in an area as small and deep as a boring, some consolidation and subsidence of the backfill soils may result in time, causing some depression at the boring area and possibly a potentially hazardous condition. The client and/or owner of the property are advised to periodically examine the boring area, and if necessary, backfill any resulting depressions.

This report is subject to review and approval by the controlling authorities for the project.

T. K. Engineering Corp. shall be retained during construction of the project so that continuous observation of the subsurface conditions can be made and additional recommendations can be given in the event of any change of condition. If another firm is retained for the geotechnical testing/observation services, our professional responsibility and liability will be impaired.

APPENDIX A

EXPLORATION AND LABORATORY TESTING

FIELD EXPLORATION

Field exploration was performed by drilling five (5) test borings. They were carried to depths of 5 to 10 feet below the existing ground surface. Test borings were drilled by 4-inch diameter hand auger.

The encountered soils were continuously logged by our field personnel and classified by visual examination. Relatively disturbed samples and representative bulk samples were obtained for laboratory testing. Relatively undisturbed samples of soils were observed at frequent intervals by driving a thin-wall steel sampler with successive drops of a hammer. The soils were retained in brass rings of 2.5 inches in diameter and one inch in height. Normally, the central portion of the sample is retained in a plastic container for shipment to the laboratory.

The locations of test borings are shown on Plate A-1. Description of the encountered soils are presented on B-Plates.

LABORATORY TESTING

<u>Classification</u>

The field classification was verified in the laboratory. The final classification is shown on the B-Plates.

Moisture-Density

The field moisture content and dry unit weight are determined for each of the undisturbed soil samples. The dry unit weight is determined in pounds-per-cubic-foot. The field moisture content is determined as a percentage of the dry weight of the soil. Both the field moisture content and the dry density for each of the tested sample are shown on B-Plates.

Consolidation Tests

Settlement predictions of the soil under the anticipated load were made based on the results of the consolidation tests. Loads were applied in several increments and the resulting deformations were recorded at selected time intervals. Porous stones were placed in contact with the top and bottom of each specimen to permit addition or release of pore water. Results are plotted on the "Consolidation Tests", C-Plates.

Shear Tests

Shear tests were performed at a constant rate of strain. The purpose of the test is to determine the shear strength parameters including the cohesion and angle of internal friction. Each sample is sheared under a specific normal load and the resulting strength are plotted on the "Shear Test", D-Plates.

Expansion Test

Expansion tests were performed on selected samples in accordance with UBC Test Standard No. 29-2. The representative sample of the on-site soils was remolded at approximately 50% degree of saturation and then soaked for 24 hours. The result is as follows:

Sample	Soil	Expansion	Potential
Location	Description	Index	_ <u>Expansion</u>
B-5 @ 0-2 ft.	clayey sand	27	low

APPENDIX B

GENERAL SPECIFICATIONS FOR SITE GRADING AND EXCAVATIONS

The recommendations presented in the geotechnical report are part of the earthwork and grading specifications, and shall supersede the provisions contained hereinafter in case of conflict. Evaluation performed by the consultant during the course of grading may result in revised and/or additional recommendations, which in turn, will supersede these specifications or the recommendations of the geotechnical report.

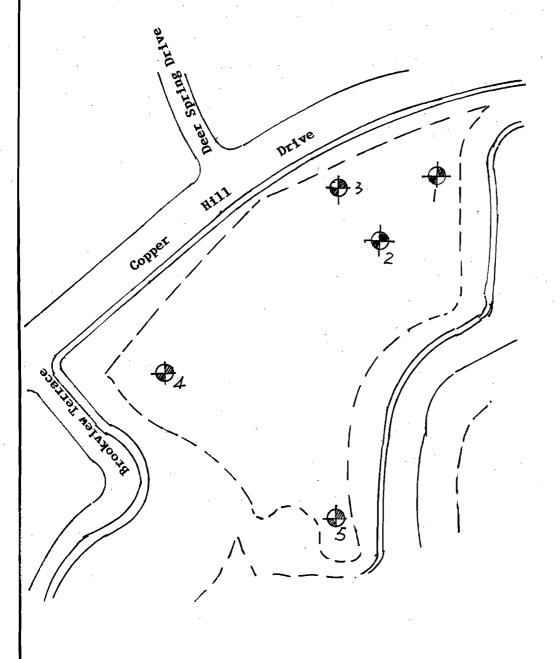
It is necessary that the consultant provide adequate testing and observation so that the earthwork will be accomplished in accordance with the specifications. It shall be the responsibility of the contractor to assist the consultant and keep him appraised of work schedules and changes so that the consultant may schedule his personnel accordingly.

- All existing fill, near surface loose or soft soils, vegetation, debris and disturbed soils in structure, slab or pavement areas shall be excavated. The excavated areas shall be observed by the Soil Engineer.
- 2. Areas to receive compacted fill shall be scarified to a depth of at least 6 inches and moistened, as required, to obtain near optimum moisture. Scarification shall continue until the soil is broken down and free of large clay lumps or clods and until the working surface is reasonable uniform and free of uneven features. The scarified areas shall be A) compacted to at least 90% of the maximum dry density as determined by the ASTM D 1557 compaction method, or B) compacted and approved by the Soil Engineer.
- 3. Any loose pockets, soft, dry, spongy, highly fractured or otherwise unsuitable soil, extending to such a depth that surface processing can not adequately improve the condition, shall be overexcavated down to firm ground. The excavated areas shall be observed and approved by the Soil Engineer prior to placing compacted fill.
- 4. Fill, consisting of soil approved by the Soil Engineer, shall be placed in controlled layers with appropriate compaction equipment. Each layer shall be compacted to at least 90% of the laboratory maximum dry density for the material used. The field density shall be determined by the ASTM D-1556 Sand Cone Method or equivalent.
- 5. The excavated, on-site clean fill material is considered satisfactory for re-use as compacted fill. All imported fill shall be non-expansive and approved by the Soil Engineer prior to use in the fill areas. Rocks larger than 6 inches in diameter shall not be used.

- 6. It shall be the sole responsibility of the contractor to provide adequate equipment and methods to accomplish the work in accordance with applicable grading codes or agency ordinances, the geotechnical recommendations and specifications presented herein, and the approved grading plans. Observation and field tests shall be performed during grading by the Soil Engineer to assist the contractor in obtaining the required degree of compaction and the proper moisture content. Where compaction of less than 90% is indicated, additional compactive effort shall be made with the adjustment of the moisture content as necessary until 90% compaction is obtained.
- 7. No fill soils shall be placed during unfavorable weather conditions. When work is interrupted by rains, fill operations shall not resume until the field tests by the Soil Engineer indicate the moisture content and the dry density of the fill are as previously specified.
- 8. Where fill is to be placed on the ground with slopes steeper than 5: 1 (horizontal: vertical), the ground shall be stepped or benched. The lowest bench shall be a minimum of 15 feet wide, at least 2 feet deep, shall expose firm materials and shall be approved by the consultant. Other benches shall be excavated in firm materials for a minimum width of 4 feet. Ground sloping flatter than 5: 1 shall be benched or otherwise overexcavated when considered necessary by the consultant.







Approx. test boring location

Proposed parking lot, walkways, gazebo, baseket ball court and restroom building Copper Hill Park, Santa Clarita, California

T.K. ENGINEERING CORP. GEOTECHNICAL & ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERS

JOB NO. 07-211F

SCALE 1"= N/A

PLATE A-1

Project: Proposed parking lot, walkways, gazebo, basket ball court and restroom building Copper Hill Park, Santa Clarita, California		LOG	OF BO	RING	NO. 1			
	Date of Drilling: 12/8/2007 Drilling Contractor:							
			4" diameter	Remarks:				
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h, F	Seldi	's/Ft		time of drilling. Subsurface conditions may differ at other change at this location with time.	roup	ity,pc	onter	t «
Depth, Ft.	Samples	Blows/Ft.	Surface Elevation:	Water Elevation: Not encountered	USGS Group Symbol	Dry Density,pcf	ıre C %	Percent of Fines
		3	Reference:	DESCRIPTION	S Sn	Dry [Moisture Content %	<u>u-</u>
	1.		fine to coarse	DESCRIPTION e slightly clayey sand with gravel to fine to				
1	x		coarse sand		SC/SP	103.0	7.3	
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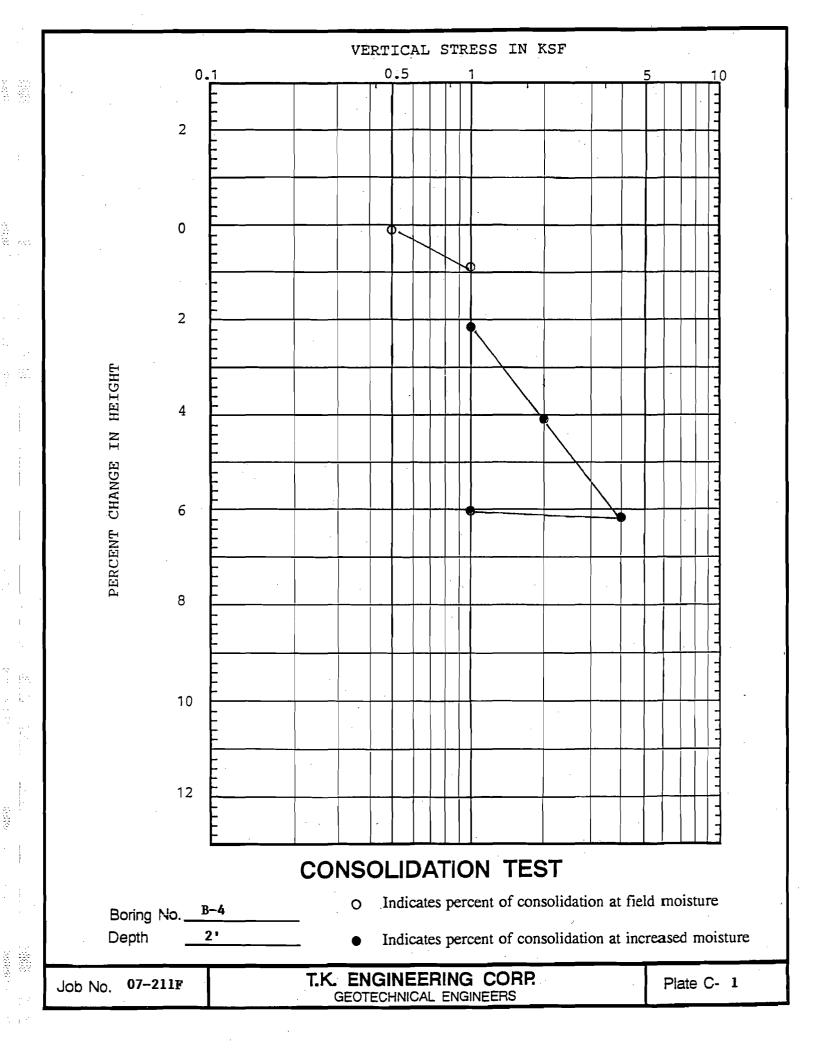
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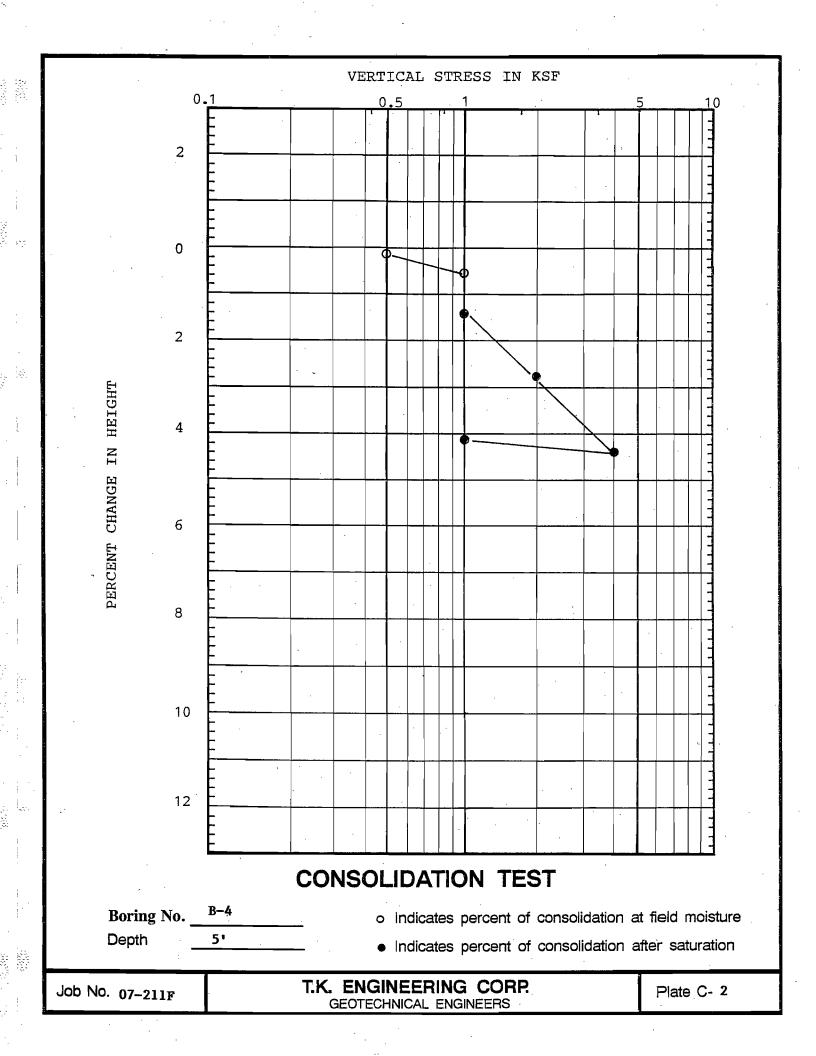
Project: Proposed parking lot, walkways, gazebo, basket ball court and restroom building **LOG OF BORING NO. 2** Copper Hill Park, Santa Clarita, California Date of Drilling: 12/8/2007 **Drilling Contractor:** Type of Boring: 4" diameter Remarks: Driving Energy: LABORATORY TESTS **Summary of Boring** This boring log prepared by T.K. Engineering Corp. applies only at the specific boring Moisture Content, % Samples USGS Group Symbol Blows/Ft Dry Density,pcf location, and at the time of drilling. Subsurface conditions may differ at other Depth, locations and may change at this location with time. Percent of Fines Surface Elevation: Water Elevation: Not encountered Reference: **DESCRIPTION** fine to coarse clayey sand with gravel to fine to coarse X sand with gravel SC/SP 108.2 7.9 dry to moist -light yellowish brown 110.2 7.4 E. O. B. at 5' due to cobble 15 25 26 29 Job No. T.K. ENGINEERING CORP. Plate B-07-211F 2 GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERS

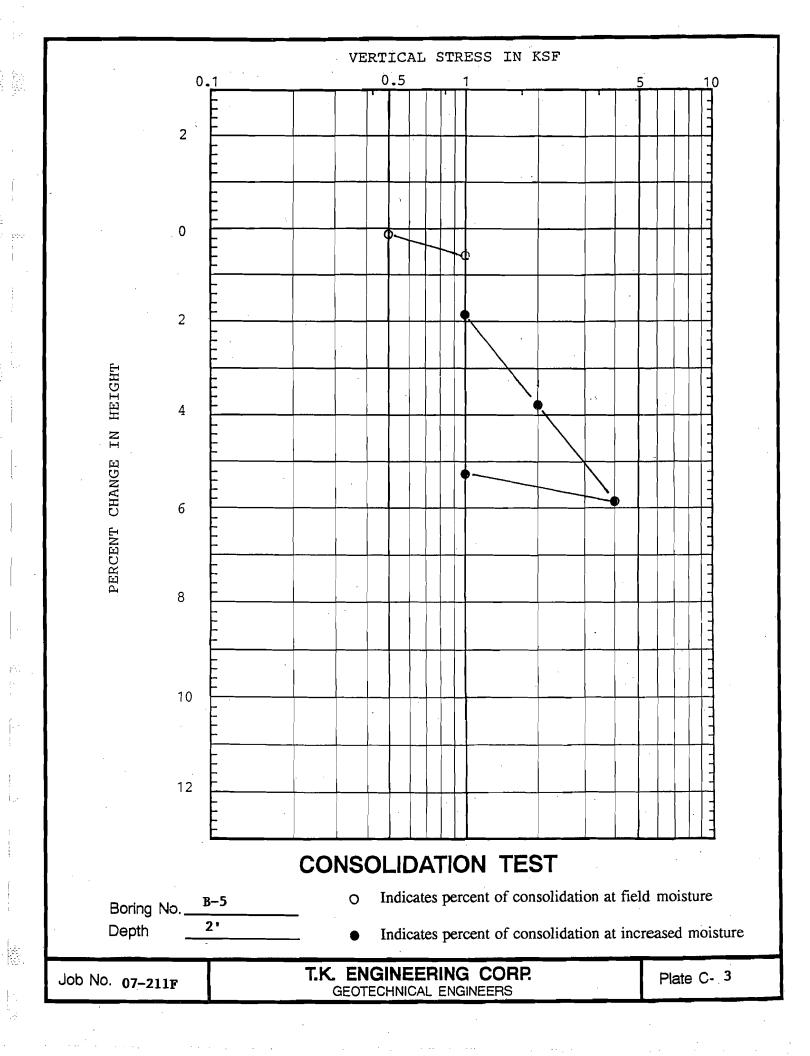
Project: Proposed parking lot, walkways, gazebo, basket ball court and restroom building Copper Hill Park, Santa Clarita, California			OF BO	RING	NO. 3	
Date of Drilling: 12/8/2007 Drilling Contractor:						
Type of Boring: 4" diameter	Remarks:				,	
Driving Energy:						
	Summary of Boring LA			DRY TES	STS	
This boring log prepared by	T.K. Engineering Corp. applies only at the specific boring	orf ant,		ent,		
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Job No. 07-211F	T.K. ENGINEERING CORP.	1	Plate B		3	
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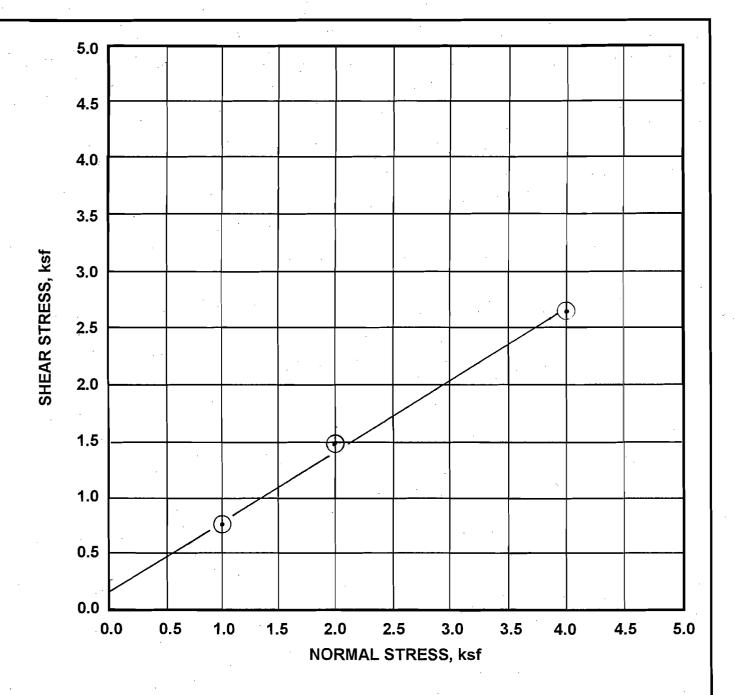
Project: Proposed parking lot, walkways, gazebo, basket ball court and restroom building LOG OF BORING NO. 4 Copper Hill Park, Santa Clarita, California Date of Drilling: 12/8/2007 **Drilling Contractor:** Type of Boring: 4" diameter Remarks: Driving Energy: LABORATORY TESTS Summary of Boring This boring log prepared by T.K. Engineering Corp. applies only at the specific boring USGS Group Symbol Depth; Ft. Samples Dry Density,pcf location, and at the time of drilling. Subsurface conditions may differ at other locations and may change at this location with time. Percent of Fines Water Elevation: Not encountered Surface Elevation: Reference: **DESCRIPTION** fine to coarse slightly clayey sand with gravel Х damp to moist -brown /yellowish brown (Fill) SC 105.6 7.4 fine to coarse slightly clayey sand with gravel moist -light yellowish brown SC 115.0 9.0 111.0 10.5 11.1 10 E. O. B. at 10' 15 20 21 25 Job No. T.K. ENGINEERING CORP. Plate B-07-211F 4 **GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERS**

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				GEOTEC	CHNICAL ENGINEERS				









BORING NO: B-1

DEPTH: 2'

DESCRIPTION: fine to coarse slightly clayey sand with gravel STRENGTH INTERCEPT (C): 0.15 ksf

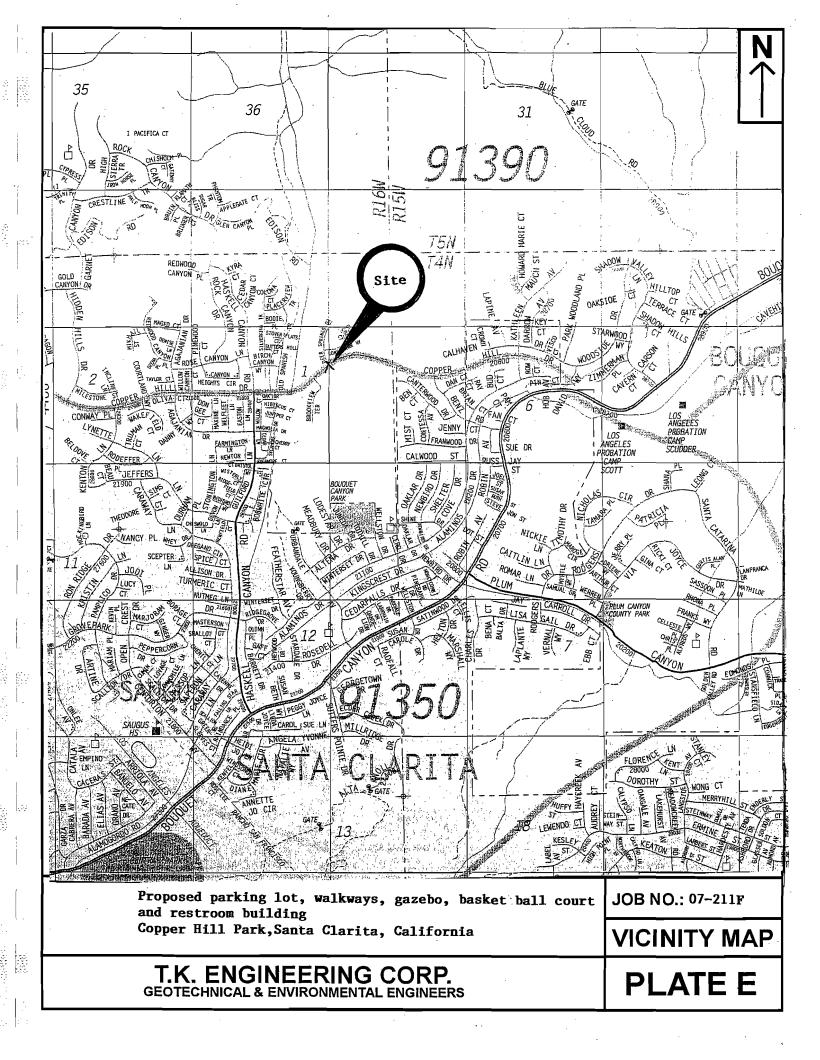
FRICTION ANGLE (Ø)

31

Degrees

REMARKS: Soil samples tested at increased moisture.

PROJECT: I	DIRECT SHEAR TEST RESULTS	
JOB NO.: 07-211	T.K. ENGINEERING CORP. GEOTECHNICAL & ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERS	PLATE D - 1



APPENDIX C MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM

MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM: COPPER HILL COUNTY PARK SANTA CLARITA, CALIFORNIA

Section 21081.6 of the Public Resources Code, enacted by passage of AB 3180 (Cortese Bill), requires public agencies approving projects with significant environmental impacts to adopt a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program. This objective of the program is to ensure that mitigation measures adopted to avoid or mitigate potentially significant environmental impacts are implemented. Section 21081.6 of the Public Resources Code requires all state and local agencies to establish monitoring and reporting programs whenever approval of a project relies upon a mitigated negative declaration or an environmental impact report (EIR). In accordance with these requirements, this mitigation monitoring and reporting program has been prepared to ensure that mitigation measures identified in the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration for the proposed construction and operation of a new park ("Copper Hill County Park"), 21380 Copper Hill Drive, Santa Clarita, California 91350 (or subsequent revisions thereto), are implemented in an effective and timely manner, and that identified impacts are avoided or mitigated to a level of insignificance. This plan identifies responsible parties for the mitigation program, and includes a detailed discussion of monitoring and reporting procedures for each mitigation measure.

I. Responsible Party

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Works (LACDPW) or its designee, will be responsible for implementing and reporting mitigation measures in this program. The LACDPW will have responsibility for ensuring that mitigation measures are accomplished in an environmentally responsible manner. The LACDPW will be responsible for ensuring that the status of mitigation measures is reported in accordance with this program. The LACDPW will be responsible for ensuring that the cost of mitigation is included in its budget, as appropriate.

LACDPW will be responsible for program oversight and implementing construction-related mitigation measures. Mitigation measures will be included in applicable requests for proposals (RFP), specifications and procedures issued for construction of the park within the scope of this project. Other mitigation measures funded by the selected contractor will be subject to oversight by the LACDPW. In addition, LACDPW will be responsible for ensuring that mitigation measures are properly carried out by designated and qualified personnel, which may include specialty contractors.

The Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation (LACDPR) will be responsible for ensuring that applicable mitigation measures are carried forward in operational and maintenance procedures for the park.

II. Mitigation Requirements

Based on the findings of the Initial Study, mitigation measures are not required for aesthetics, agriculture and forest resources, air quality, greenhouse gases, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology/water quality, land use and planning, mineral resources, noise, population and housing, public services, recreation and transportation/traffic. Specific mitigation measures are required for biological resources, cultural resources, and geology/soils. Potentially significant impacts in these environmental resource areas will be avoided or minimized with implementation of twenty-four (24) specific mitigation measures summarized on Table C-1.

III. Schedule and Reporting Frequency

Table C-2 describes the method for executing the mitigation measure, organization responsible for implementing the measure, organization responsible for funding the measure, estimated completion date for each measure, frequency of reporting, and significance after mitigation. Due to possible funding conditions and other external factors, facility construction and operation could be delayed. These delays may also affect the start and completion of mitigation measures.

Table C-1. Summary of Mitigation Measures

Category	Item	Mitigation No.	Mitigation Measure	Section
Biological			9	2.IV.a
Resources 2 Bio 2 Avoid Grove of Tucker's Oaks		Avoid Grove of Tucker's Oaks	2.IV.e	
	3	Bio 3	Water Drainage at Tucker's Oaks Protection of Tucker's Oaks	
	4	Bio 4	Protection of Tucker's Oaks	2.IV.e
	5	Bio 5	o 5 Protection of Tucker's Oaks	
	6	Bio 6	Protection of Tucker's Oaks	2.IV.e
	7	Bio 7	Maintenance Pruning of Tucker's Oaks	2.IV.e
Cultural	8	Cultural 1	Archaeological Monitoring in Non-Fill Soils	2.V.b
Resources	9	Cultural 2	Inadvertent Discovery of Archaeological Materials	2.V.b
	10	Cultural 3	Paleontological Monitoring	2.V.c
	11	Cultural 4	Paleontological Monitoring	2.V.c
	12	Cultural 5	Inadvertent Discovery of Paleontological Materials	2.V.c
	13	Cultural 6	Paleontological Monitoring (Sediment Sampling/Fossil Curation)	2.V.c
	14	Cultural 7	Final Paleontological Monitoring Report	2.V.c
	15	Cultural 8	Inadvertent Discovery of Human Remains	2.V.d
Geology	16	Soils 1	Geotechnical Recommendations	2.VI.a.iii
and Soils	17	Soils 2	Erosion Control	2.VI.b
	18	Soils 3	Reuse of Topsoil	2.VI.b
	19	Soils 4	Use of Berms	2.VI.b
	20	Soils 5	Minimize Soil Exposure	2.VI.b
	21	Soils 6	Best Management Practices for Earthwork	2.VI.b
	22	Soils 7	Watering for Dust Control	2.VI.b
	23	Soils 8	Revegetation to Prevent Erosion	2.VI.b
	24	Soils 9	Geotechnical Recommendations	2.VI.c

The monitoring and accomplishment of each mitigation measure will be documented on a Mitigation Monitoring Report form. This form will be filled out by the appropriate individual in the event of an inadvertent discovery of archaeological materials, paleontological materials, or human remains as described in Table C-2. Supplemental recordkeeping, report preparation and documentation will be required for some mitigation measures. The Mitigation Monitoring Report form will be filled out by the appropriate individual verifying that steps to prevent or minimize environmental degradation have been completed as described in Table C-2. Monitoring reports will be submitted to the County Department of Public Works and County Department of Parks and Recreation (Attn: Environmental Section Head), retained in the County's project files, and be available for inspection upon request. Completion of these forms will demonstrate and document compliance with Public Resources Code 21081.6.

Table C-2. Implementation of Mitigation Measures

Mit. No.	Mitigation Measure	Method for Execution of Mitigation	Entity Responsible for Mitigation Monitoring	Completion Date	Frequency of Reporting	Significance After Mitigation
Bio 1	Native Plant Exclusion Zone	A native plant exclusion zone will be designated on construction drawings. This zone will be flagged and restricted from access during construction activities on the site. No landscaping or other plantings will occur in the exclusion zone, with the exception of placement of large boulders or planting of native bunch grasses. No irrigation will be allowed in the native plant exclusion zone.	Los Angeles County Department of Public Works	Design	At Final Design; During Construction	Less than Significant
Bio 2	Avoid Tucker's Oaks	No construction work will be allowed within the protected zone of the existing Tucker's oak trees at the southwestern corner of the proposed park site.	Los Angeles County Department of Public Works and Construction Contractor(s)	Design	At Final Design; During Construction	Less than Significant
Bio 3	Water Drainage at Tucker's Oaks	The slope and fill soil immediately east of the small grove of Tucker's oaks will be modified to ensure that water drains away from the trees and does not flow onto or under these trees.	Los Angeles County Department of Public Works and Construction Contractor(s)	Design	At Final Design; During Construction	Less than Significant
Bio 4	Protection of Tucker's Oaks	No irrigation or other plantings will occur within the protected zone of the Tucker's oaks.	Los Angeles County Department of Public Works and Construction Contractor(s)	Design	At Final Design; During Construction	Less than Significant
Bio 5	Protection of Tucker's Oaks	The protected zone of the Tucker's oaks will be flagged and restricted from access during construction activities on the site.	Los Angeles County Department of Public Works and Construction Contractor(s)	Prior to Construction	At Final Design; During Construction	Less than Significant
Bio 6	Protection of Tucker's Oaks	No plantings of other species of oaks will be included in park landscaping.	Los Angeles County Department of Public Works and Construction Contractor(s)	Design	At Final Design; During Construction	Less than Significant
Bio 7	Maintenance Pruning of Tucker's Oaks	Maintenance of the Tucker's oak trees will be limited to medium pruning of branches not to exceed two inches in diameter in accordance with guidelines published by the National Arborists Association intended to ensure the continued health of these trees.	Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation	During Park Operation	Annually	Less than Significant

Mit. No.	Mitigation Measure	Method for Execution of Mitigation	Entity Responsible for Mitigation Monitoring	Completion Date	Frequency of Reporting	Significance After Mitigation
Cultural 1	Archaeological Monitoring in Non- Fill Soils	All excavation at depths greater than 2 ft below the surface will be monitored by a qualified archaeologist that meets Secretary of the Interior's standards. The monitor will attend the pre-grading meeting(s) with contractors to explain and coordinate requirements and procedures for the inadvertent discovery of cultural materials during construction.	Los Angeles County Department of Public Works and Construction Contractor(s)	During Excavation and Grading at 2 ft or more below ground surface	Weekly	Less than Significant
Cultural 2	Inadvertent Discovery of Archaeological Materials	In the event any archaeological materials or subsurface deposits are exposed during ground disturbance, the construction contractor would cease activity in the affected area (e.g., redirect activities into another area) until the discovery can be evaluated by a qualified archaeologist or historic resources specialist, as required, and appropriate treatment measures implemented. If the discovery proves to be significant pursuant to § 15064.5(c) of CEQA Guidelines, additional work such as testing or data recovery will be conducted as warranted. Methods during monitoring and/or recovery of archaeological resources shall be documented in a report of findings.	Los Angeles County Department of Public Works and Construction Contractor(s)	During Construction	Weekly	Less than Significant
Cultural 3	Paleontological Monitoring	All project-related ground disturbances that extend into the Saugus Formation will be monitored by a qualified paleontological monitor as this geologic unit is determined to have a high paleontological sensitivity.	Los Angeles County Department of Public Works and Construction Contractor(s)	During Construction	Weekly	Less than Significant
Cultural 4	Paleontological Monitoring	A qualified paleontologist will be retained to supervise monitoring of construction excavations. Paleontological resource monitoring will include inspection of exposed rock units during active excavations within sensitive geologic sediments. The monitor will have authority to temporarily divert grading away from exposed fossils in order to professionally and efficiently recover the fossil specimens and collect associated data. The qualified paleontologist will prepare monthly progress reports to be filed with County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works. An incident report of findings will be prepared and filed with the County within fourteen (14) days of each occurrence.	Los Angeles County Department of Public Works and Construction Contractor(s)	During Construction	Upon discovery	Less than Significant

Mit. No.	Mitigation Measure	Method for Execution of Mitigation	Entity Responsible for Mitigation Monitoring	Completion Date	Frequency of Reporting	Significance After Mitigation
Cultural 5	Inadvertent Discovery of Paleontological Materials	In the event paleontological resources are encountered during earthwork, the paleontological monitor would have the authority to immediately cease activity in the affected area (e.g., divert grading away from exposed fossils and redirect activities into another area) until the resources can be evaluated, and the appropriate treatment measures implemented. The paleontologist would determine if the paleontological material should be salvaged, identified and permanently preserved.	Los Angeles County Department of Public Works and Construction Contractor(s)	During Construction	Upon discovery and at completion of construction	Less than Significant
Cultural 6	Paleotological Monitoring (Sediment Sampling/Fossil Curation)	In the event that microfossils are encountered during earthwork, sediment sampling for significant microfossils should be conducted as the Saugus Formation is known to yield very small vertebrate specimens that may only be recovered via screen washing and hand picking. The collection of additional matrix for screen-washing will be recommended at the discretion of the Qualified Paleontologist. At each fossil locality (or location), field data forms will be used to record pertinent geologic data, stratigraphic sections will be measured, and appropriate sediment samples will be collected and submitted for analysis. Recovered fossils will be prepared to the point of curation, identified by qualified experts, listed in a database to facilitate analysis, and reposited in a designated paleontological curation facility. The most likely repository is the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County. The cost of curation, maintenance, and permanent storage of fossil specimens is generally assessed by the repository.	Los Angeles County Department of Public Works and Construction Contractor(s)	During Construction	Upon discovery and at completion of construction	Less than Significant
Cultural 7	Final Paleontological Monitoring Report	The qualified paleontologist will prepare a final monitoring and mitigation report to be filed with the client, the lead agency, and the repository.	Los Angeles County Department of Public Works and Construction Contractor(s)	During Construction	At completion of construction	Less than Significant

Mit. No.	Mitigation Measure	Method for Execution of Mitigation	Entity Responsible for Mitigation Monitoring	Completion Date	Frequency of Reporting	Significance After Mitigation
Cultural 8	Inadvertent Discovery of Human Remains	In the event human remains are encountered during project construction, the Los Angeles County Coroner shall be immediately contacted to determine whether or not investigation of the cause of death is required. The Coroner shall make a determination of origin and disposition pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 5097.98. The Coroner will be notified of the find immediately. In the event the remains are Native American in origin, the Native American Heritage Commission shall be contacted to determine necessary procedures for protection and preservation of remains, including reburial, as provided in the CEQA Guidelines, Section 15064.5(e).	Los Angeles County Department of Public Works and Construction Contractor(s)	During Construction	Upon discovery and at completion of construction	Less than Significant
Soils 1	Geotechnical Recommendations	The proposed park would be designed and constructed in accordance with geotechnical recommendations and constraints of the applicable sections of the County building code. As a minimum, the January 2008 preliminary soils investigation report recommended removal and recompaction of the first 3 feet of soils below the existing grade or one (1) foot below the bottom of footing, whichever is greater. Two feet of removal and recompaction are recommended for the parking lot, walkways and play court/basketball court areas. However, if fill is encountered, all the fill shall be removed and recompacted to a minimum of 90 percent relative compaction and 95 percent relative compaction for concrete walkways and play court/basketball court areas.	Los Angeles County Department of Public Works and Construction Contractor(s)	Prior to Construction	Prior to Construction	Less than Significant
Soils 2	Erosion Control	Standard erosion control measures, such as scheduling to avoid work during rainy season/monitoring of weather, use of soil binders, straw much, earth dikes and drainage swales, would be implemented during any ground disturbing activities (e.g., excavation and/or grading operations).	Los Angeles County Department of Public Works and Construction Contractor(s)	During Construction	Weekly during earthwork	Less than Significant
Soils 3	Reuse of Topsoil	Any topsoil removed from the site would be placed in the immediate area and used for re-compaction purposes.	Los Angeles County Department of Public Works and Construction Contractor(s)	During Construction	Weekly during earthwork	Less than Significant

Mit. No.	Mitigation Measure	Method for Execution of Mitigation	Entity Responsible for Mitigation Monitoring	Completion Date	Frequency of Reporting	Significance After Mitigation
Soils 4	Use of Berms	For excavations that occur during the rainy season (November through April), installation of berms and/or plastic sheeting should be utilized.	Los Angeles County Department of Public Works and Construction Contractor(s)	During Construction	Weekly during earthwork	Less than Significant
Soils 5	Minimize Soil Exposure	Earthwork would be planned and conducted in such a manner as to minimize the duration of exposure of unprotected soils.	Los Angeles County Department of Public Works and Construction Contractor(s)	During Construction	Weekly during earthwork	Less than Significant
Soils 6	Best Management Practices for Earthwork	Earthwork would be conducted using best management practices, such as single point construction entries, to minimize erosion during demolition and construction.	Los Angeles County Department of Public Works and Construction Contractor(s)	During Construction	Weekly during earthwork	Less than Significant
Soils 7	Watering for Dust Control	In order to minimize soil loss, earthwork would include watering for dust control.	Los Angeles County Department of Public Works and Construction Contractor(s)	During Construction	Weekly during earthwork	Less than Significant
Soils 8	Revegetation to Prevent Erosion	Grass and other landscaping would be reestablished in the disturbed areas immediately after construction is completed, thereby reducing the potential for erosion.	Los Angeles County Department of Public Works and Construction Contractor(s)	During Construction	Weekly during earthwork	Less than Significant
Soils 9	Geotechnical Recommendations	The proposed project would be designed and constructed in accordance with the recommendations of the project-specific geotechnical investigation including, but not limited to: review and approval of grading and foundation plans prior to construction; and, observation of bottom excavation by a soil engineer or representative prior to bottom processing and placement of compacted fill.	Los Angeles County Department of Public Works and Construction Contractor(s)	Prior to Construction	Prior to Construction	Less than Significant

MITIGATION MONITORING REPORT SECTION 21081.6 PUBLIC RESOURCES CODE



County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works 900 S. Fremont Avenue, 5th Floor (Attn: David Palr Alhambra, CA 91803	ma)	Page of		
Project Name				
COPPER HILL COUNTY PARK				
Location	File No.			
21380 Copper Hill Drive Santa Clarita, CA 91350				
Mitigation Measure No				
Mitigation Description:				
Monitoring Frequency	Reporting Req	quirement		
Remarks				
The information contained in this report is an independent evaluation based on my personal observations and information provided to me. In accordance with Section 21081.6 of the California Public Resources Code, I hereby certify under penalty of perjury that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. Name of Person Completing Form Title				
Signature	Date	e Signed		
Form Received by: Signature:				
Title: Department/Division: Date Rec'd:				
Compliance Acceptance: ☐ Yes ☐ No Date Rec'd by Report Recipient:				
Mitigation Completed:				

Attach additional sheets if necessary.

APPENDIX D

PUBLIC REVIEW OF THE DRAFT INITIAL STUDY/ MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

PUBLIC REVIEW OF THE DRAFT INITIAL STUDY/ MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR COPPER HILL COUNTY PARK

The County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works (DPW) placed the Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration for the proposed Copper Hill County Park (dated September 2010) on public review for a period of 30 days. Information on the notifications, document distribution and agency review are provided in this appendix.

D.1 Newspaper Notice

DPW published a Notice of Availability for the Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration for the proposed Copper Hill County Park in The Signal newspaper on September 13 and 19, 2010. This notice indicated that the public review period for the document would close on October 19, 2010. A copy of this notification is included as Exhibit D-1.

D.2 Posting of Notice at the Project Site

DPW posted a Notice of Availability for the Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration for the proposed Copper Hill County Park on the perimeter fence of the project site on September 10, 2010 (see photos). This notice indicated that the public review period for the document would close on October 19, 2010.



D.3 Los Angeles County Clerk Filing

A Notice of Completion was filed with the Los Angeles County Clerk on September 14, 2010. A copy of the notice is provided as Exhibit D-2. A Notice of Determination will be filed with the Los Angeles County Clerk once the project is approved by the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors.

D.4 Filing at State Clearinghouse

A Notice of Completion was filed at the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (State Clearinghouse) for the Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration. The State review period initiated on September 13, 2010 and ended on October 12, 2010. A copy of the notice is provided as Exhibit D-3.

D.5 Distribution List

Copies of the Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration for the proposed Copper Hill County Park were mailed to 19 government agencies or organizations. The distribution list for the document is provided in Exhibit D-4.

D.6 Comment Letters Received and Responses

Four local government agencies provided comments on the Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration. Each of these letters has been reprinted herein with substantive comments bracketed and numbered as shown in Exhibit D-5. A summary of comments raised and DPW responses is provided on Table D-1.

Table D-1. Responses to Comments Received on the Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration for Copper Hill County Park

Comment No. ¹	Comment Summary	Response
County of	Los Angeles Sheriff's Department Headqua	arters (October 12, 2010)
1-1	Restroom entrances of the facilities should face the street or the parking lot with no obstructions from vegetation, hardscape and landscape.	Thank you for your letter. Your letter will be provided to the Board of Supervisors with the Final Mitigated Negative Declaration prior to any decision on the project. The County concurs with the need to prevent any increase in criminal activity in its parks. There will be no restroom constructed in Phase 1 of the park. Because the proposed park would be located on an elevated terrace above Copper Hill Drive, visibility of the restroom from the street and the parking lot would be limited. The County has given consideration to designing the restroom entrance to face the street or parking lot; however, the County has a preference to enable clear visibility of, and easy access to, the restroom doors from the play area. The layout allows for the Phase 2 restroom entrances to face the play area (connected by a walkway). This would enable parents to monitor their children entering and exiting the restroom. All restrooms would be locked at sundown and security lighting in the park will remain on all night. The Los Angeles Sheriff's Department has confirmed their concurrence with this approach on March 3, 2011.
1-2	Restroom entrances of the facilities should face the street parking lot with no obstructions from vegetation, hardscape and landscape.	Please see response to comment no. 1-1.

Table D-1. Responses to Comments Received on the Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration for Copper Hill County Park (Cont'd)

Comment No. ¹	Comment Summary	Response
County S	anitation Districts of Los Angeles County (C	October 12, 2010)
2-1	Wastewater flow will discharge to a local sewer not maintained by the Districts for conveyance to the Districts' Bouquet Canyon Relief Trunk Sewer. District operates two WRPs interconnected to form the SCVJSS which has a design capacity of 28.1 mgd and currently processes an average flow of 20.3 mgd.	Thank you for your letter. Your letter will be provided to the Board of Supervisors with the Final Mitigated Negative Declaration prior to any decision on the project. The County acknowledges and appreciates the information on wastewater systems from the Sanitation Districts. Section 2.XVII(b) of the Initial Study has been revised to incorporate this information. Wastewater flow will discharge to the local sewer that is owned, operated and maintained by the County of Los Angeles.
2-2	Expected average wastewater flow from the proposed project is 60 gallons per day.	Section 2.XVII(e) of the Initial Study has been revised to include the information provided.
2-3	(Information on District connection fees)	The County is aware of District connection fees for sewerage service and intends to provide such fees before seeking a permit to connect to the sewer.
2-4	For Federal Clean Air Act conformity, design capacities of Districts' wastewater facilities are based on SCAG regional growth forecasts. Districts intend to provide service up to the levels legally permitted.	This County project has been designed to accommodate the existing need for recreational facilities in accordance with regional growth forecasts established by SCAG.
City of Sa	nta Clarita (October 19, 2010)	
3-1	The City does not support the two-phased proposal for park improvements. Indeterminate statements like "start date to be determined" and "second phase is not funded" are of concern. Upon likely future annexation of the area, the City could inherit an unfunded improvement obligation if the second phase is not constructed prior to annexation.	Thank you for your letter. Your letter will be provided to the Board of Supervisors with the Final Mitigated Negative Declaration prior to any decision on the project. The County appreciates the opportunity to obtain your concerns. As discussed in the November 30, 2010 conference call between City of Santa Clarita planners (Mr. Tom Reilly) and the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works (David Palma), the two-phased proposal for the park is required due to current funding limitations. The County's obligations for the Phase 1 park construction and associated improvements will result in development of a passive park only. The County is not aware of any pending annexation at this time. The County is not under an obligation to construct the second phase of the park in the event that the park is transferred to the City as a result of annexation. Presently, it is the County's intent to construct the second phase of the park upon availability of funding if the property has not been annexed into the City.
3-2	Phase 1 improvements are wholly inadequate to meet basic recreation needs of residents in nearby unincorporated area. Phase 1 does not include restrooms, benches, shade structures, play areas, picnic tables, basketball courts, tennis courts, volleyball courts, or play fields for soccer or baseball.	Phase 1 improvements would result in a passive recreational park and are not intended to meet other recreational needs of the community. Should funding for Phase 2 become available, many of the facilities listed by the City would be considered assuming they could be accommodated within the buildable size of the park. Upon availability of funding, the County Department of Parks and Recreation would consult with the City of Santa Clarita to define recreational needs appropriate for the second phase of the park.

Table D-1. Responses to Comments Received on the Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration for Copper Hill County Park (Cont'd)

Comment No. ¹	Comment Summary	Response
City of Sa	nta Clarita (October 19, 2010) (Cont'd)	
3-3	If Phase 2 is not constructed for several years, Phase 1 improvements would be of limited recreational value and grossly inadequate.	The County understands your concerns. Phase 1 improvements are intended to provide a passive recreational park for the community.
3-4	Regarding the park obligation for Tract 46757, in-lieu fees should have been adjusted to account for the reduction in acreage of the park by 1.05 acres.	Section 1.9 of the Initial Study has been revised to indicate that the park land obligation was \$622,200. This obligation was fulfilled by dedication of 4.05 acres of public parkland and payment of \$128,100. This information was confirmed by the County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation.
3-5	The document states that the parking lot accommodates 22 vehicles (page 3) but the plans show 16 spaces striped.	Phase 1 of the park would include parking for 16 vehicles; Phase 2 would add six spaces for a total of 22. Only the Phase 1 parking lot has been designed at this time. Based on the County's Title 22 Planning and Zoning code (Section 22.52.1175), a total of 12 parking spaces are required for a park of this size with one future restroom and gazebo.
3-6	Page 7 discusses a potential roadway connection from the proposed Saugus Union School District project at the northerly terminus of Wellston Drive and Haskell Canyon Road. Haskell Canyon road is west of the school site and Wellston Drive is an existing north-south local street which will be extended to the north to serve the new school site. The developer of Tentative Tract 52829 had proposed the westerly extension of Franwood Avenue through their residential subdivision to the west, crossing the LADWP easement and eventually connecting to Haskell Canyon Road as a secondary means of access for the subdivision.	Section 1.13 of the Initial Study has been revised to include this additional information. There are no plans or applications for the roadway connection with the Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning at this time.
3-7	Page 8 discusses Tentative Tract 52829 which was approved by the County in 2005. Any alternative alignment connecting this tract to Copper Hill Drive which avoided the LADWP easement is not feasible given existing development and topographical constraints, and would render Copper Hill County Park unusable. This alignment would also produce significant visual impacts, grading impacts, and traffic circulation impacts that were not analyzed in the environmental document for Tentative Tract 52829, nor were these considered by the Regional Planning Commission when they approved the subdivision. This agency would need to approve a modification and a subsequent environmental document prepared.	Section 1.13 of the Initial Study has been revised to include this additional information. There are no plans or applications for the roadway connection with the Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning at this time.

Table D-1. Responses to Comments Received on the Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration for Copper Hill County Park (Cont'd)

Comment No. ¹	Comment Summary	Response
City of Sa	nta Clarita (October 19, 2010) (Cont'd)	
3-8	Given sight distance and traffic speeds on Copper Hill Drive, a physical structure should be constructed limiting all exiting vehicles to a right turn out only.	Los Angeles County Department of Public Works has completed a sight distance analysis for vehicles exiting the park. Based on these findings, the park will be designed to provide adequate sight distance to allow left turns out of the park driveway onto Copper Hill Drive. Based on Section 405.1 of the CalTrans Highway Design Manual, a minimum stopping sight distance of 430 ft from the observer point at the park driveway will be required to provide a safe sight distance when making a left turn out of the new park driveway. To achieve this requirement, the existing frontage slope located to the right (when exiting) out of the park would be cut as discussed in Section 1.11. A retaining wall on either side of the small L.A. County-owned retaining wall near the Southern California Edison electrical transformers will be constructed to provide clear sight access when exiting the park in a vehicle. This was discussed with Tom Reilly of your staff on March 24, 2011 who concurred with this design feature.
3-9	Evaluate the adequacy of the proposed turn around radius to accommodate trash trucks and emergency vehicles. Vehicles must not be forced to back onto Copper Hill Drive under any circumstance.	Los Angeles County Department of Public Works has evaluated the adequacy of the turnaround radius in the parking lot and determined that the 32 ft radius would be in compliance with code requirements for emergency vehicle turnaround. This turnaround radius would allow trash trucks and emergency vehicles to turn around and exit the park.
County of	Los Angeles Fire Department (December 1	4, 2010)
4-1	Development of this project must comply with all applicable code and ordinance requirements for construction, access, water mains, fire flows and fire hydrants.	Thank you for your letter. Your letter will be provided to the Board of Supervisors with the Final Mitigated Negative Declaration prior to any decision on the project. The County concurs with the need to comply with applicable code and ordinance requirements. The proposed park would be designed in accordance with applicable building codes and requirements for adequate access, water mains, fire flows and hydrants. Your comment will be provided to the Board of Supervisors with the Final Mitigated Negative Declaration prior to any decision on the project.

Note: 1 Refer to letters reprinted in Exhibit D-5.

Exhibit D-1. Proof of Publication

THE SIGNAL NEWSPAPER 24000 Creekside Rd Valencia CA 91355

Proof of Publication (2015.5 C.C.P)

STATE OF CALIFORNIA, **COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES**

I am a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the county aforesaid; I am over the age of eighteen years; and I am not a party to or interested in the notice published. I am the chief legal advertising clerk of the publisher of the SIGNAL NEWSPAPER

a newspaper of general circulation, printed and published Daily in the City of Santa Clarita County of Los Angeles, and which newspaper has been adjudged a newspaper of general circulation by the Superior Court of the County of Los Angeles, State of California,

under the date of March 25, 1988

Case Number NVC15880, that the notice, of which the annexed is a printed copy, has been published in each regular and entire issue of said newspaper and not in any supplement thereof on the following dates, to-wit:

9/13,9/19

All in the year 20 10

I certify (or declare) under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct

Dated at Valencia, California, this

20 day of September 20 10

Signature

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY COPPER HILL COUNTY PARK INITIAL STUDY AND MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

PROJECT: Copper Hill County Park
LEAD AGENCY: County of Los Angeles Department of Public ty of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
PUBLIC REVIEW AND AVAILABILITY OF DOCUMENTS: In conformance with Section 15072 of the California Environmental. Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines, the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works is notifying the public of the availability of a Draft Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration for the proposed constructhe proposed construc-tion and operation of a

new public park in San-ta Clarita (unincorporat-ed Los Angeles Coun-ty), California. The County proposes to adopt the Mitigated Negative Declaration. Negative Declaration.
The public review period for the Draft Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration will close on October 19th, 2010.
This document is available for review at the Valencia Public Library, 23743 Valencia Boulevard, Valencia, CA 91355 Phone: (661) 259-8942; the Newhall Public Library, 22704 9th Street, Newhall, CA 91321 Phone: 911321 Phone:
Get Directions (661)
259-0750; and Canyon
Country Jo Anne Darcy
Library, 18601 Soledad
Canyon -Road, Santa
Clarita, CA 91351
Phone (661) 251-2720.
The document is also
available during normal
business hours, Monday
through Thursday, at
County of Los Angeles
Department of Public
Works, 900 S. Fremont
Avenue, 5th Floor Receptionist, Alhambra,

new public park in San-

CA 91803.
PROJECT LOCATION:
The new public park
would be located at
21380 Copper Hill
Drive, Santa Clarita, CA
91350, The park would
be located on the south
side of Copper Hill Drive
between Brookview Terrace on the west and
Cross Creek Drive on
the east.
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The County of

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The County of
Los Angeles would construct a new 4-acre
neighborhood park in
two phases. The first
phase of construction
would include removal
of flood control structures on the site, clearing, grading, and new
drainage structures. A
new parking lot, stairway, walkways, security
lighting, open turf, play
areas, landscaping and
an irrigation system
would be included in the
first phase. The second
phase of the park has
not been funded at this
time, and, would include. time; and, would include a new restroom, gaze-bo, play equipment and a concrete play

court/basketball The park would be operated by the County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation.
WRITTEN COMMENTS
MAY BE MAILED TO:

Department of Public Works Attn: Mr. David Palma 900 S. Fremont Avenue,

5th Floor Alhambra, CA 91803 All written comment letters must be post-marked no later than October 19th, 2010. Comments may be emailed to

emailed to dpalma@dpw.lacounty. gov or faxed to the attention of Mr. Palma at (626) 979-5320. Emailed and faxed compents must be received. mailed and laxed comments must be received by October 19th, 2010. Should you have any questions, please con-tact Mr. Palma at (626) 300-2339. CN843683 9/13 & 9/19

Exhibit D-2. Filing of Notice of Completion at Los Angeles County Clerk



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

900 SOUTH FREMONT AVENUE ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91803-1331 Telephone: (626) 458-5100 http://dpw.lacounty.gov

ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO: P.O. BOX 1460 ORIGINAL FILED P.O. BOX 1460

IN REPLY PLEASE REFER TO FILE:

PJ-2

September 9, 2010

SEP 1 4 2010 LOS ANGELES, COUNTY CLERK

TO:

All Interested Parties

FROM: David Palma

Project Management Division I

COPPER HILL COUNTY PARK PROJECT NOTICE OF COMPLETION OF DRAFT INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

This is to inform you that the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works proposes to construct and operate a new public park in Santa Clarita (unincorporated Los Angeles County). The new park would be located at 21380 Copper Hill Drive, Santa Clarita, CA 91350, The park would be on the south side of Copper Hill Drive between Brookview Terrace on the west and Cross Creek Drive on the east

The proposed 4-acre neighborhood park would be constructed in two phases. The first phase of construction would include removal of flood control structures on the site, clearing, grading, and new drainage structures. A new parking lot, stairway, walkways, security lighting, open turf play areas, landscaping and an irrigation system would be included in the first phase. The second phase of the park has not been funded at this time; and, would include a new restroom, gazebo, play equipment and a concrete play court/basketball court. The park would be operated by the County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation.

In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act, the County has prepared a Draft Initial Study and proposes to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration for this project. The Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration is available for review at the Valencia Public Library, 23743 Valencia Boulevard, Valencia, CA 91355 Phone: (661) 259-8942; the Newhall Public Library, 22704 9th Street, Newhall, CA 91321 Phone: (661) 259-0750; and Canyon Country Jo Anne Darcy Library, 18601 Soledad Canyon Road, Santa Clarita, CA 91351 Phone (661) 251-2720. The document is also available during normal business hours, Monday through Thursday, at County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, 900 S. Fremont Avenue, 5th Floor Receptionist, Alhambra, CA 91803.

Exhibit D-2. Filing of Notice of Completion at Los Angeles County Clerk (Cont'd)

All Interested Parties September 9, 2010 Page 2

The public review period for the Mitigated Negative Declaration will close on October 19th, 2010. Written comments may be mailed to:

Department of Public Works Attention: Mr. David Palma 900 South Fremont Avenue, 5th Floor Alhambra, California 91803

All written comment letters must be postmarked no later than October 19th, 2010. Comments may be emailed to dpalma@dpw.lacounty.gov or faxed to the attention of Mr. Palma at (626) 979-5320. Faxed comments must be received by 5:00 p.m. on October 19th, 2010. Should you have any questions, please contact the project manager at (626) 300-2339.

Thank you for your interest in this project.

DP'vs

U:\pmdI\general\parks\Copper Hill Park\Admin\Correspondence\Letters\Notice of Avail.doc

Los Angeles County Registrar / Recorder 12400 Imperial Highway, Norwalk, CA (800)201-8999

Business Filings

NORWALK

Cashier: A. SHERLOCK

* 2 0 1 0 0 9 1 4 1 2 4 0 0 2 4 *

Tuesday, September 14, 2010 11:04 AM

Item(s)

ee Qty Total

NoC - County Posting Fee 1

\$75.00

Total \$7

\$75.00

Customer payment(s):

Cash Change \$100.00 (\$25.00)

Exhibit D-3. Filing of Notice of Completion at State Clearinghouse



Copper Hill County Park

SCH Number: 2010091025

Document Type: MND - Mitigated Negative Declaration

Project Lead Agency: Los Angeles County

Project Description

The County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works is proposing to construct a 4-acre neighborhood park in two phases. The first phase of construction would include removal of flood control structures on the site, clearing, grading, and new drainage structures. A new parking lot, stairway, walkways, security lighting, open turf play areas, landscaping and an irrigation system would be included in the first phase. The second phase of the park has not been funded at this time, and, would include a new restroom, gazebo, play equipment and a concrete play court/basketball court. The park would be operated by the County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation.

Contact Information

Primary Contact:

Mr. David Palma Los Angeles County Department of Public Works (626) 300-2339

433 S. Fremont Avenue, 5th Floor Alhambra, CA 91803

Project Location

County: Los Angeles City: Santa Clarita

Region:

Cross Streets: Brookview Terrace and Cross Creek

Latitude/Longitude: Parcel No: 3244-151-900

Township: 4N Range: 16W Section: 1 Base:

Other Location Info:

Proximity To

Highways: no Airports: no

Railways: no Waterways: Bouquet Canyon Creek

Schools: Bouquet Canyon ES, Rosedell ES, North Park ES,

Land Use: Land Use: Residential/Single Family Zoning: Residential (R-1-5000) General Plan Use: Residential/Single Family

Development Type

Recreational

Local Action

Project Issues

Agricultural Land, Air Quality, Archaeologic-Historic, Wildlife, Growth Inducing, Toxic/Hazardous, Traffic/Circulation, Vegetation, Flood Plain/Flooding, Forest Land/Fire Hazard, Geologic/Seismic, Minerals, Drainage/Absorption, Landuse, Cumulative Effects, Other Issues, Soil Erosion/Compaction/Grading, Noise, Water Quality, Water Supply, Solid Waste, Public Services, Recreation/Parks, Aesthetic/Visual

Reviewing Agencies (Agencies in Bold Type submitted comment letters to the State Clearinghouse)

Resources Agency; Department of Fish and Game, Region 5; Cal Fire; Department of Parks and Recreation; Department of Water Resources; Office of Emergency Services; Caltrans, District 7; Regional Water Quality Control Board, Region 4; Department of Toxic Substances Control; Native American Heritage Commission; State Lands Commission

Date Received: 9/13/2010 Start of Review: 9/13/2010 End of Review: 10/12/2010

Exhibit D-4. Distribution List for the Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration for Copper Hill County Park

L.A. County Department of Regional Planning Attn: Paul McCarthy, Impact Analysis Section 320 W. Temple St. Los Angeles, CA 90012	L.A. County Dept of Parks and Recreation Attn: Joan A. Rupert, Section Head/ Environmental 510 S. Vermont Ave., Rm. 201 Los Angeles, CA 90020	County of Los Angeles Public Health Attn: Patrick Nejadian Program Director Land Use Program 5050 Commerce Drive Baldwin Park, CA 91706
L.A. County Dept of Public Works Attn: Land Development Division 900 S. Fremont Avenue Alhambra, CA 91803	Los Angeles County Police Park Services Bureau Attn: Chief William G. Nash 2101 N. Highland, Bungalow D Los Angeles, CA 90068	L.A. County Sheriff's Department Director of Facilities Planning Attn: Michael Kameya 1000 S. Fremont Ave. Bldg A9-East, 5 th Floor North Alhambra, CA 91803
L.A. County Office of County Counsel Attn: Lauren Dods 652 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration 500 W. Temple St. Los Angeles, CA 90012	Los Angeles County Fire Department Fire Prevention North Region Area 3 Office 23757 Valencia Blvd. Valencia, CA 91355	County of Los Angeles Sanitation District Planning Division Attn: Adrianna Rassa P.O. Box 4998 Whittier, CA 90607-4998
Los Angeles County Chief Executive Office Attn: Alisa Cheipian Los Angeles County Hall of Administration 500 W. Temple Street Los Angeles, CA 90012	Southern California Edison Attn: Kyle Thompson (Planning) 25625 Rye Canyon Road Valencia, CA 91355	William Gonzales, THCP Committee Chairman Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians 601 South Brand Blvd, Suite 102 San Fernando, CA 91340
City of Santa Clarita Parks Division 23920 Valencia Blvd., Suite 300 Santa Clarita, CA 91355	William Gonzales, THCP Committee Chairman Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians 601 South Brand Blvd, Suite 102 San Fernando, CA 91340	City of Santa Clarita Parks Division 23920 Valencia Blvd., Suite 300 Santa Clarita, CA 91355
Jeff Ford Castaic Lake Water Agency 27234 Bouquet Canyon Road Santa Clarita, California 91350	Mr. Harold Pierre, Director of Facilities Saugus Union School District 24930 Avenue Stanford Santa Clarita, CA 91355	Lorna Baril William S. Hart Union School District 21515 Centre Point Parkway Santa Clarita, CA 91350
Rosalind Wayman, Field Deputy Los Angeles County Fifth Supervisorial District Santa Clarita Valley Office 23920 Valencia Blvd., Suite 265 Santa Clarita, CA 91355		

COMMENT LETTER NO. 1



County of Los Angeles Sheriff's Department Headquarters



Farme D. Thuca, Sherill

4700 Ramona Boulevard Monterey Park, California 91754-2169

October 12, 2010



Mr. David Palma Department of Public Works Project Management Division I 900 South Fremont Ave, 5th Floor Alhambra, California 91803

Dear Mr. Palma:

REVIEW COMMENTS FOR THE COPPER HILL COUNTY PARK PROJECT DRAFT INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION (FPB NO. 10-061)

This letter is transmitted in response to your Notice of Availability (NOA), dated September 9, 2010, for the Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration, for the Copper Hill County Park Project (Project) located at 21380 Copper Hill Drive in Santa Clarita.

Additional review comments from LASD on the NOA for the Initial Study are provided by Captain Stephen M. Smith of the Parks Bureau (see attached correspondence, dated September 23, 2010).

In summary, the Parks Bureau does not anticipate any significant impacts to their current operations as long as the restroom entrances of the facilities face the street parking lot with no obstructions from vegetation, hardscape and landscape.

The Park Bureau has no further comments at this time, but reserves the right to address these and other matters in subsequent reviews of the proposed project.

A Tradition of Service Since 1850

COMMENT LETTER NO. 1 (Cont'd)

Mr. David Palma

- 2 -

October 12, 2010

Thank you for including LASD in the environmental review process for the proposed project. Should you have any questions of LASD on this matter, please contact Mr. Lester Miyoshi, of my staff, at (626) 300-3012, and refer to Facilities Planning Tracking No. 10-061. Mr. Miyoshi may also be contacted via e-mail, at lhmiyosh@lasd.org.

Sincerely,

LEROY D. BACA, SHERIFF

Gary T. K. Tse, Director Facilities Planning Bureau

COMMENT LETTER NO. 1 (Cont'd)

761551N25A - SH-AD (11/90)

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

A Tradition of Service Since 1850

DATE:

September 23, 2010

OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

FILE NO.

FROM:

STEPHEN M. SMITH, CAPTAIN

PARKS BUREAU

TO: GARY T. K. TSE, DIRECTOR

FACILITIES PLANNING BUREAU

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED

NEGATIVE DECLARATION PROJECT (10-061)

Parks Bureau staff have reviewed the submitted Notice of Availability of Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS) from the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works regarding the Copper Hill County Park Project.

Our review, based on the principles of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design, and the possibility of increased need for police services, revealed no negative impact by the construction of this park. As long as the entrances to the restroom facilities face the street or parking lot, with no obstructions from vegetation, hardscape, or landscape, this will not significantly increase criminal activity. The park itself will not require significantly increased police presence either in the park or on the adjacent street.

1-2

Should you have further questions, please contact Sergeant John Hargraves at (323) 845-0070.

SMS:JRH:jrh

COMMENT LETTER NO. 2



COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICTS OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY

1955 Workman Mill Road, Whittier, CA 90601-1400 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 4998, Whittier, CA 90607-4998 Telephone: [562] 699-7411, FAX: [562] 699-5422 www.lacsd.org

STEPHEN R. MAGUIN Chief Engineer and General Manager

October 12, 2010

File No: SCV-00.04-00

Mr. David Palma County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works 900 South Fremont Avenue Alhambra, CA 91803-1331

Dear Mr. Palma:



Copper Hill County Park Project

The County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County (Districts) received a Negative Declaration for the subject project on September 14, 2010. The proposed development is located within the jurisdictional boundaries of the Santa Clarita Valley Sanitation District. We offer the following comments regarding sewerage service:

- The wastewater flow originating from the proposed project will discharge to a local sewer line, which is not maintained by the Districts, for conveyance to the Districts' Bouquet Canyon Relief Trunk Sewer, located in Bouquet Canyon Road at Festividad Drive. This 24-inch diameter trunk sewer has a design capacity of 12.4 million gallons per day (mgd) and conveyed a peak flow of 3.2 mgd when last measured in 2008.
- 2. The District operates two water reclamation plants (WRPs), the Saugus WRP and the Valencia WRP, which provide wastewater treatment in the Santa Clarita Valley. These facilities are interconnected to form a regional treatment system known as the Santa Clarita Valley Joint Sewerage System (SCVJSS). The SCVJSS has a design capacity of 28.1 mgd and currently processes an average flow of 20.3 mgd.
- The expected average wastewater flow from the project site is 60 gallons per day. For a copy of
 the Districts' average wastewater generation factors, go to www.lacsd.org, Information Center,
 Will Serve Program, Obtain Will Serve Letter, and click on the appropriate link on page 2.
- 4. The Districts are authorized by the California Health and Safety Code to charge a fee for the privilege of connecting (directly or indirectly) to the Districts' Sewerage System or increasing the strength or quantity of wastewater attributable to a particular parcel or operation already connected. This connection fee is a capital facilities fee that is imposed in an amount sufficient to construct an incremental expansion of the Sewerage System to accommodate the proposed project. Payment of a connection fee will be required before a permit to connect to the sewer is issued. For a copy of the Connection Fee program, Obtain Will ve Letter, and click on the appropriate link on

-2-3

2-2

2-1

Doc #: 1710843.1

A Recycled Peper

COMMENT LETTER NO. 2 (Cont'd)

Mr. David Palma

-2-

October 12, 2010

page 2. For more specific information regarding the connection fee application procedure and fees, please contact the Connection Fee Counter at extension 2727.

2-3 cont'd

2-4

5. In order for the Districts to conform to the requirements of the Federal Clean Air Act (CAA), the design capacities of the Districts' wastewater treatment facilities are based on the regional growth forecast adopted by the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG). Specific policies included in the development of the SCAG regional growth forecast are incorporated into clean air plans, which are prepared by the South Coast and Antelope Valley Air Quality Management Districts in order to improve air quality in the South Coast and Mojave Desert Air Basins as mandated by the CAA. All expansions of Districts' facilities must be sized and service phased in a manner that will be consistent with the SCAG regional growth forecast for the counties of Los Angeles, Orange, San Bernardino, Riverside, Ventura, and Imperial. The available capacity of the Districts' treatment facilities will, therefore, be limited to levels associated with the approved growth identified by SCAG. As such, this letter does not constitute a guarantee of wastewater service, but is to advise you that the Districts intend to provide this service up to the levels that are legally permitted and to inform you of the currently existing capacity and any proposed expansion of the Districts' facilities.

If you have any questions, please contact the undersigned at (562) 908-4288, extension 2717.

Very truly yours,

Stephen R. Maguin

Adriana Raza

Customer Service Specialist Facilities Planning Department

AR:ar

Doc #: 1710843.1

COMMENT LETTER NO. 3



23920 Valencia Boulevard • Suite 300 • Santa Clarita, California 91355-2196 Phone: (661) 259-2489 • FAX: (661) 259-8125 www.santa-clarita.com

October 19, 2010

Mr. David Palma Project Management Division I County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works 900 South Freemont Avenue Alhambra, CA 91803-1331

Dear Mr. Palma,

Subject: Mitigated Negative Declaration for the proposed Copper Hill County Park

Thank you for the opportunity to review the above reference project and to comment on the Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration. While this project site lies outside of the current City boundary, the proposed County park site is within the City's Sphere of Influence and is likely to be annexed to the City in the future. Our comments are summarized in the listing below:

- While the City is supportive of the immediate development of this park facility, the City does not support the two-phased proposal for park improvements. This concern is made more acute by the statements within the environmental document which indicate that the Phase 2 "start date to be determined" and that "the second phase of the park has not been funded." These indeterminate statements generate a concern that Phase 2 improvements may not be constructed for many years. Upon the likely future annexation of the area, the City could inherit an unfunded improvement obligation if the Phase 2 improvements are not constructed prior to annexation.
- The Phase 1 park improvements are wholly inadequate to meet the basic recreation needs of the residents in the nearby unincorporated area. Phase 1 improvements, which include only a parking lot, trash enclosure, turf grass and a walking path, do not include ANY of the following basic recreational facilities:
 - Restrooms
 - Benches
 - Shade structures
 - Play Areas
 - Picnic tables
 - Basketball courts
 - Tennis courts
 - Volleyball courts
 - · Play Fields for soccer or baseball

3-2

3-1





COMMENT LETTER NO. 3 (Cont'd)

Copper Hill County Park Comments October 19, 2010 Page 2 of 3 If due to budget considerations the Phase 2 improvements were not constructed for several years, the Phase 1 improvements would be of limited recreational value to the community and grossly inadequate. The environmental document indicates that the park obligation for Tract 46757 was 5.1 acres of park land, \$128,100 of in lieu fees and that this "obligation was to be satisfied by dedication of 4.05 acres of park land and payment of \$128,100 of in-lieu fees." Since the acreage of land dedication dropped by 1.05 acres, the in-lieu fees should have been adjusted to account for the reduction in acreage. The environmental document states that the parking lot accommodates 22 vehicles (page 3) but the plans show sixteen spaces striped. Page 7 of the environmental document discusses a potential roadway connection from the proposed Saugus Union School District project at the northerly terminus of Wellston Drive and Haskell Canyon Road. In fact, Haskell Canyon Road is located to the west of the school site and Wellston Drive is an existing north-south local street which will be 3-6 extended to the north to serve the new school site. The developer of Tentative Tract 52829 had proposed the westerly extension of Franwood Avenue through their residential subdivision to the west, crossing the LADWP easement and eventually connecting to Haskell Canyon Road as a secondary means of access for the subdivision. Page 8 of the environmental document discusses Tentative Tract Map 52829 which was approved by the County in 2005, and states that because the LADWP did not approve a future roadway alignment over its easement the developer is proposing an alternative connection from Tract 52829 to Copper Hill Drive. This alignment has apparently not been finalized by the developer and has not yet been "presented to the Department of Regional Planning or the Department of Parks and Recreation for review and approval.." Any alternative alignment connecting Tract 52829 to Copper Hill Drive which avoided the LADWP easement is not feasible given existing development and topographical constraints and would render the proposed Copper Hill Park site unusable. In addition, this alignment would also produce significant visual impacts, grading impacts and traffic circulation impacts that were not analyzed under the environmental document prepared for Tentative Tract 52829 and not considered by the Regional Planning Commission when they approved the subdivision. This level of change to an approved Tentative Tract Map would undoubtedly warrant approval by the Regional Planning Commission of a Modification to Tentative Tract Map 52829 and preparation of a subsequent environmental document for that project. The City's Traffic Engineer has reviewed the proposed improvement plans and offers the following comments: o Given sight distance and traffic speeds on Copper Hill Drive, a physical structure should be constructed limiting exiting vehicles to right turn out only. Evaluate the adequacy of the proposed turn around radius to accommodate trash trucks and emergency vehicles. Vehicles must not be forced to back onto

Copper Hill Drive under any circumstances.

COMMENT LETTER NO. 3 (Cont'd)

Copper Hill County Park Comments October 19, 2010 Page 3 of 3

Thank you again for the opportunity to comment on this project. If you have any questions or would like to discuss any of these comments further feel free to contact me at 661-255-4330.

Sincerely,

David Koontz, AICP Associate Planner

DK:kb

S:\CD\CURRENT\IRP\IRP FILES\Copper Hill Park - for merge 10.19..doc

cc: Lisa Webber, Planning Manager Sharon Sorensen, Senior Planner Rick Gould, Director of Parks and Recreation Ian Pari, Senior Traffic Engineer Susie Tae, Supervising Regional Planner

COMMENT LETTER NO. 4



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

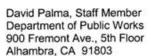
FIRE DEPARTMENT

1320 NORTH EASTERN AVENUE LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90063-3294

(323) 890-4330

P. MICHAEL FREEMAN FIRE CHIEF FORESTER & FIRE WARDEN

December 14, 2010



Dear Mr. Palma:

MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION, ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT REVIEW, NOTICE OF COMPLETION, SCH # 2010091025, COPPER HILL COUNTY PARK, BROOKVIEW TERRACE & CROSS CREEK, SANTA CLARITA (FFER #201000195)

The Mitigated Negative Declaration has been reviewed by the Planning Division, Land Development Unit, Forestry Division, and Health Hazardous Materials Division of the County of Los Angeles Fire Department. The following are their comments:

PLANNING DIVISION:

We have no comments at this time.

LAND DEVELOPMENT UNIT:

- The proposed park is a result of an approved subdivision, TR 47657. The County of Los Angeles Fire Department, Land Development Unit reviews and sets conditions of approval for the Tract Map during the Tentative Map Review Process and ensures compliance of any open conditions, if any, set during that time.
- The development of this project must comply with all applicable code and ordinance 2. requirements for construction, access, water mains, fire flows and fire hydrants.

SERVING THE UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY AND THE CITIES OF: MALIBU

AGOURA HILLS ARTESIA AZUSA BALDWIN PARK BRADBURY CALABASAS CARSON CERRITOS CLAREMONT BELL GARDENS BELLFLOWER COMMERCE

CUDAHY DIAMOND BAR DUARTE EL MONTE GARDENA HAWAIIAN GARDENS

HAWTHORNE HIDDEN HILLS HUNTINGTON PARK INDUSTRY INGLEWOOD IRWINDALE LA CANADA-FLINTRIDGE LA HABRA

LA MIRADA LA PUENTE LAKEWOOD LANCASTER LAWNDALE LOMITA LYNWOOD

MAYWOOD NORWALK PALMDALE PALOS VERDES ESTATES PARAMOUNT PICO RIVERA

POMONA RANCHO PALOS VERDES ROLLING HILLS ROLLING HILLS ESTATES ROSEMEAD SAN DIMAS SANTA CLARITA

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PROJECT MANAGEMENT DIVISION I DEPT. PUBLIC WORKS

SIGNAL HILL SOUTH EL MONTE SOUTH GATE TEMPLE CITY WALNUT WEST HOLLYWOOD WESTLAKE VILLAGE WHITTIER

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David Palma, Staff Member December 14, 2010 Page 2

- Specific fire and life safety requirements for the construction phase will be addressed at the building fire plan check.
- Should any questions arise regarding the subdivision, water systems, or access, please contact the County of Los Angeles Fire Department's Land Development Unit Inspector, Juan Padilla, at (323) 890-4243.

FORESTRY DIVISION - OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS:

- The statutory responsibilities of the County of Los Angeles Fire Department, Forestry Division include erosion control, watershed management, rare and endangered species, vegetation, fuel modification for Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones or Fire Zone 4, archeological and cultural resources, and the County Oak Tree Ordinance.
- The areas germane to the statutory responsibilities of the County of Los Angeles Fire Department, Forestry Division have been addressed.

HEALTH HAZARDOUS MATERIALS DIVISION:

 Based on the submitted information, the Health Hazardous Materials Division has no objection to the proposed project.

If you have any additional questions, please contact this office at (323) 890-4330.

Very truly yours,

JOHN R. TODD, CHIEF, FORESTRY DIVISION PREVENTION SERVICES BUREAU

rack Nidal

JRT:lj